

Angola talks to resume Monday

BRASSAVILLE (AP) — U.S.-mediated peace talks between Angola and South Africa, suspended Dec. 3 after the sudden departure of the South African delegation, will resume Monday, diplomatic sources said Friday. The aim is an agreement between South Africa, Angola and Cuba, which will result in the withdrawal of 50,000 Cuban troops from Angola and independence for the territory of Namibia, Angola's southern neighbour. After the talks broke off, the Cuban and Angolan delegations had accused South Africa of negotiating in bad faith, and charged Pretoria was not interested in a peace agreement. South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said his delegation had to go home to consult its government on solutions to problems concerning verification of a Cuban withdrawal. Botha said negotiations would resume soon, adding, "the process is irreversible." The Congolese government has not announced a resumption of the talks, but rooms were reserved in the hotel which has served as the site for the talks. South Africa has tied the Cuban withdrawal to independence for Namibia on grounds the Cubans would pose a threat

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الرابرة

Britain upgrades PLO contacts

LONDON (R) — Britain upgraded its contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Friday when a Foreign Office minister met a senior aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Bassam Abu Sharif, Arafat's political adviser and the most senior PLO official to visit Britain in recent years, met Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave in the first talks at ministerial level between Britain and the PLO for five years. After the 40-minute meeting, Abu Sharif reiterated the PLO's recognition of Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism. Abu Sharif said he told Waldegrave: "The Palestinians are fully for international guarantees for all states in the region to live within secure borders... including Israel, and that we renounce all sorts of terrorism and violence." Meetings between the British government and the PLO have so far been on the level of officials. The last ministerial meeting was when Douglas Hurd, then a Foreign Office minister, met PLO foreign policy chief Farouk Kaddoumi in 1983. Abu Sharif told Reuters that he explained the PLO's peace initiative during the meeting at which the intifada was also discussed.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Arab Nation has no future without unity — Crown Prince

TUNIS (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Friday stressed the need for Arab unity and warned that the Arab Nation would have no future unless it "removes away the dust that has covered the Arab unity file for a long time."

"Our nation will have no future nor any means for survival unless it enters the next century completely or partly united," the Crown Prince said in speech to a symposium on scopes of cooperation among the Arab Maghreb countries, read out on his behalf by Saaduddin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Arab Thought Forum, which organised the event.

Prince Hassan said regional pan-Arab gatherings based on joint and enlightened interests for each party might be the best means in the current circumstances and pointed out in this regard to the successful experience of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Prince Hassan said that several parts of the world were now working hard and quickly to meet the requirements of the 21st century at the top of which is economic coordination and cooperation in the field of advanced technology.

The Crown Prince added that since the convening of the extraordinary Arab summit in Am-



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

man in November 1987, there had been many developments in the region, including the Palestinian uprising, the return of Egypt to the Arab fold, the Moroccan Algerian reconciliation which paved the way for a summit of the Maghreb countries in June 1988, Jordan's historic decision to sever administrative and legal relations with the occupied West Bank, Iraq's victory in its defensive and just war with Iran, the historical resolutions adopted at the Palestine National Council's (PNC) meeting in November 1988 and the constitutional reforms in Tunisia and Algeria.

These positive developments at the Arab arena and others have

shown that the Arab Nation is still alive and that it will survive however deep its wounds might be or however severe its problems of challenges facing it might be, he said.

Prince Hassan pointed out that Western Europe is about to achieve its comprehensive economic unity by 1992 combining a huge population which is almost or probably more than that of the United States or the Soviet Union.

As the Arab Maghreb region is the nearest Arab region to the economically united Europe, Prince Hassan noted, then its countries can only deal fairly with these countries if they are united.

Prince Hassan added that some countries in the East and South-East Asia are witnessing the formation of new economic alliances like the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN). He also cited another regional cooperation organisation in South Asia, the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

The Crown Prince said if Arab unity was beyond the reach of this generation, then it would not be beyond the reach of this generation to pave the way for such a unity and make its achievement by the next Arab generations more realistic and possible.

Palestinians defy Israeli show of military might

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip marked the first year of their revolt against the Israeli rule with sporadic acts of defiance Friday, erecting roadblocks, burning tyres and flying balloons the colours of the Palestinian flag.

Four Palestinians were wounded in clashes with troops in the occupied West Bank following noon prayers, doctors said.

All 650,000 residents of the Gaza Strip were confined to their homes by a curfew imposed by the army Thursday night after daytime clashes.

In Gaza City, streets were virtually deserted, but the stench of tyres set ablaze in protest permeated the air.

West Bank residents contacted by telephone reported a big milit-

ary presence in the streets.

"The streets everywhere are flooded with soldiers, many more than I've ever seen, blocking roads, driving the wrong way down streets," a Ramallah resident told Reuters by telephone.

Troops prevented journalists from entering major West Bank towns in what has become a routine measure to stop them witnessing protests and army action.

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Anniversary of declaration of human rights marked today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday joins the rest of the world in observing the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was issued by the U.N. General Assembly that met in Paris on Dec. 10, 1948. The declaration, (see full text on page 4) which came into being in 1976, contains 30 articles dealing with the basic rights of people.

Palestinians fight off deep Israeli attack into Lebanon

NAAMEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Palestinians fought with Israeli air, naval and commando forces for nine hours Friday as Israel's military made its deepest attack into Lebanon in five years. At least eight fighters and a ranking Israeli officer were killed.

Three Israeli soldiers and 16 fighters were also wounded in the battles across hills overlooking this coastal town, 80 kilometres north of the Israeli border, Lebanese police and the Israeli army said.

Helicopter-borne Israeli paratroopers landed on bluffs east of Naameh just hours after midnight in an apparent effort to attack a nearby base of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-

General Command (PFLP-GC). The Israeli unit was "ambushed and encircled shortly after it landed," said the spokesman.

The Israelis dispatched sea-borne reinforcements and its warplanes mounted 20 sorties starting at 6:40 a.m.

The hostilities were over by 11:15 a.m. (0915 GMT), shortly after two Israeli helicopters landed near an abandoned monastery and evacuated the besieged troops.

Initial communiques released by Ahmed Jibril's PFLP-GC said 18 Israelis were captured. Jibril would later confirmed his troops captured no Israelis.

Talking to reporters at a tunnel

in the stricken area, he displayed a U.S.-made M-16 rifle and binoculars that he said belonged to the dead Israeli.

An aide to Jibril, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Israelis had released "several Doberman dogs fitted with tear-gas containers and explosives."

"The dogs were trained to chase our fighters in the tunnels, when the Israelis would release the gas by remote control or detonate the explosives to either force our fighters leave the tunnels or kill them," he said.

"Our fighters shot the dogs," he said and pointed to a dead black Doberman with explosives and a gas container strapped around his belly.

Reagan praises Gorbachev, urges 'diplomatic engagement'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan used his last formal White House news conference to give a conciliatory view of the Soviet Union, the country he once branded the evil empire.

Reagan, who leaves office in 43 days, said he believed Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was trying to transform the Soviet Union into a less "threatening" society.

He cautioned, however, that the United States must maintain strong defences while it pursued "vigorous diplomatic engagement" with Moscow.

"We must remain resolute and without illusion... we must speak candidly about fundamental points of difference," he said.

"We must especially maintain our military strength."

Reagan's tone was far removed from the one he used at his first presidential news conference eight years ago.

He said then that the Kremlin reserved the right to lie and cheat and to commit any crime to achieve its goals. In 1983, he made his notorious remark about the evil empire. In 1985, he met Gorbachev for the first time and their "fireside summit" in Geneva laid the basis for a new U.S.-Soviet relationship.

The day after his fifth and final meeting with Gorbachev, Wednesday in New York, Reagan, 77, said "extraordinary things have happened" to the

superpowers in the past three years.

Asked if he thought Gorbachev wanted to make the Soviet Union less threatening, Reagan replied: "Yes, I do."

"I think he realises that their massive (military) buildup has been responsible for the great economic crisis that he faces there in the Soviet Union."

Reagan, who said he and Gorbachev had exchanged invitations to visit each other again in the future, hailed Gorbachev's dramatic U.N. announcement that he would reduce Soviet forces by 500,000 men and 10,000 tanks as a further step to peace (see page 8).

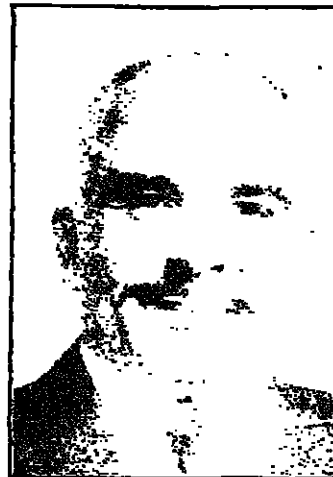
King: Intifada is fight for rights, reflects resolve

LONDON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday described the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories as a phenomenon demonstrating a great degree of awareness and pursuit for rights and a resolve to confront unacceptable circumstances.

In a statement to the British Broadcasting Corporation, transmitted Friday evening as part of a special programme on the Palestinian uprising, King Hussein said reasons behind the intifada were multitude, including practices against the Palestinian people.

for right, which has drawn world attention to the just cause which should be addressed quickly if stability in this region is to be maintained," the King said.

King Hussein added that the conflict in the Middle East, an



HM King Hussein

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100,000 killed in Armenia earthquake

MOSCOW (Agencies) — More than 100,000 people may have died in the earthquake that devastated two cities and wiped out an entire town in the southern Soviet Republic of Armenia, a spokesman for Armenia's official news agency said Friday.

The spokesman for the Armenian press agency also said rioters in the neighbouring Republic of Azerbaijan had set fire to nine Armenian houses in the capital, Baku, after troops had been redeployed to help the earthquake rescue operation.

The spokesman, who did not give his name, said he based his estimate of 100,000 dead on the fact that there were only a handful of survivors in and around the town of Spitak.

"In the region of Spitak, which had a population of 55,000, there was almost no one left alive, he told Reuters by telephone from the Armenian capital, Yerevan. Soviet officials have not given

casualty figures but said three-quarters of Armenia's second largest city, Leninakan, had been destroyed in Wednesday's quake. Radio Moscow Friday spoke of "scores of thousands of dead."

The Armenpress spokesman said five plane loads of refugees from Baku arrived in Yerevan Thursday. They spoke of continuing ethnic violence.

At least 31 people have died in two weeks of clashes in both Armenia and Azerbaijan. The violence was the latest flare-up in 10 months of unrest over the disputed Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Doctors, heavy equipment operators and other volunteers streamed into the shattered Armenian cities Friday to aid the survivors of the earthquake.

TASS said the quake left 400,000 people homeless, and an Armenian health official said almost 5,000 had been hospitalised. A Soviet scientist in Mos-

King cables condolences

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday sent a cable of condolences to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, voicing deep regret and sorrow for the damage and losses caused by an earthquake which hit the Soviet Armenia. King Hussein expressed heartfelt condolences to Gorbachev and the Soviet government and people and the families of the bereaved.

crow predicted aftershocks in the Caucasus region in the south, near Turkey.

President Mikhail Gorbachev, who cut short a trip to the United States and cancelled plans to visit

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Missile shoots down USAID plane near Sahara; 5 killed

RABAT (Agencies) — A ground-to-air missile shot down a plane carrying U.S. foreign aid workers near the disputed Western Sahara Thursday, killing at least five Americans, a U.S. spokesman and Moroccan radio said.

A second aircraft was also hit but managed to land at an airstrip in Morocco.

Both DC-7 aircraft were taking part in an international anti-locust campaign and were en route from Dakar, Senegal, to Agadir, on Morocco's Atlantic coast.

"One of the aircraft exploded in the air after it was hit, while the second which was hit a few seconds later was able to continue its flight at low altitude and landed at Sidi Ifni airfield in Morocco," the radio said in its midnight bulletin Thursday. It gave no casualty figures.

It was not known who fired the missiles. The plane was near the Western Sahara where guerrillas have been battling the Moroccan government for control of the former Spanish colony sandwiched between Mauritania and Morocco.

Mauritania lies east of the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony. Morocco annexed

part of the Western Sahara in 1976 and the remaining territory three years later, when Mauritania withdrew from it.

For 13 years, the desolate border region has been the scene of a guerrilla war between the Polisario Front to establish an independent Western Sahara.

A caller identifying himself as Majid Abdullah, Polisario's North American representative in Washington, said the front "will do everything possible to shed full light on this tragic and unfortunate incident."

"We are not sure really who shot it down," he said in a phone call to the AP in New York. "The Polisario Front has no interest in creating problems with the United States."

He said Morocco must assume responsibility for the attack because it directed civilian planes over an area with a "huge concentration" of Polisario troops. The area where the plane was

shot down is 1,045 kilometres southwest of Rabat.

The DC-7s were used for spraying locust swarms in Senegal, which borders Mauritania to the south, aid spokesman Bart Kull said in Washington. Locust infestations have ravaged much of Northern Africa this year.

Four civilian aircraft have been shot down over the Sahara earlier in the war between the Algerian-backed guerrillas and Moroccan troops.

A U.S. embassy spokesman in Rabat said the two four-engine aircraft had been chartered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to combat the worst plague of locusts to hit northwest Africa this century.

They were flying north from their bases in Senegal to Agadir at about 3,000 metres along an internationally recognised air corridor.

He said a team of USAID workers had gone to Agadir to investigate the deaths.

The last time a plane was shot down in Western Sahara was in October 1986 when a French Cessna taking part in the Paris-Dakar air rally was hit near Dakhla and crash-landed. Both crew members escaped unhurt.

King: Intifada is fight for rights

(Continued from page 1)

important part of the world and a vital spot which has rich oil resources and an important geographical location, "is one of the most dangerous problems that not only threaten this region, but also world peace."

"It is nonsense that this problem remains without a solution, (which should come through) an international peace conference in which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, takes part on an equal footing," he said.

On Jordan's decision to sever administrative and legal relations with the occupied West Bank, the King said "We did no more than complying with the wish of the Palestinian people, who opted one day to join us in a united country but recently opted to go in the direction of forming their own independent Palestinian state on their national soil and to focus on their personality and identity."

The King added that Jordan had blessed the Palestinian wishes and had responded in the past as it had responded recently. However, the King noted, "we will not abandon them and will never relinquish our duties towards them until they restore their full rights on their national soil," he said.

On the proposed confederation between Jordan and the Palestinian state, King Hussein said Jordan wanted this confederation as a means for enabling the PLO to take its natural place in the international peace conference. "However, due to the disengagement of administrative and legal relations on the one hand and due to the recent resolutions on the other the picture has changed and we are now studying the subject with all its details... how the future relations will be," he said.

The King noted that Jordanian-Palestinian relations were stronger than any time in the past. "The relations between the two Arab peoples of Jordan and Palestine have always been unique and very special," he said.

"We hope to see in the near future the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on the Palestinian national soil. If the Palestinian brothers opt for this kind of confederation, then it would be one of the objectives which we might achieve at a later stage. However the people will be free to choose whatever they want," the King said.

Tangible moves for peace

In an interview with two Kuwaiti newspapers published Friday, the King predicted tangible results concerning the Middle East problem and a vital development in the Palestinian issue next spring.

World views towards Israel on the Palestinian question have changed and there is pressure on Israel to exchange occupied territories for peace, the King said in the interview with Al-Siyassah and the English-language Arab Times.

He expressed the belief that the next U.S. administration would want to see Israel showing more flexibility on the Palestinian problem.

Referring to the Palestinian uprising, the King said that Israel's security calculations were currently in a difficult situation and would become even more difficult with time and that pressure on Israel would increase.

After some time, the Arab population in the occupied territories will be almost near to that of the Jews and this will be a problem that Israel would not be able to tackle, the King said. A year has now elapsed since the beginning of the uprising and there is no let-up in on the part of the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom, the King said.

The spring, he said, could witness a real change in the situation now that the superpowers are ending their disputes and regional conflicts around the world are being solved peacefully.

The King said U.S. president-elect George Bush would accept that the peace process in the Middle East required Israel to show more flexibility. The King cited Bush's international experience and suggested the new president might be ready to put pressure on Israel.

Referring to the U.S. refusal to issue an entry visa to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to address the U.N. General Assembly the King said the refusal had provided a great service to the Palestinian people.

He said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who announced Washington's refusal, spoke the language of Israel's extreme right. "Still we do not advise a dispute with the U.S. administration at present, the King said noting widespread criticism of Shultz's move.

Call for summit

King Hussein called for an

Arab summit and the return of Egypt to the Arab League and said his recent tours of Arab capitals were designed to rally the Arabs and unify their ranks. "We are now face to face with a new world force, that of Europe whose countries will unite by 1992, and this calls on the Arabs to unite and form an effective force in world affairs," the King said. He said that the Arabs can follow the example of Europe and form three regional blocs: in the Eastern Mediterranean, in the Gulf and North African regions, working under the umbrella of the Arab League.

The next Arab summit, he said, should invite Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to attend.

King Hussein said he was optimistic about collective Arab action and cited "good words by the Syrian leadership towards Egypt and an end to propaganda campaigns between Libya and Egypt" as the cause behind his optimism.

Jordanian economy

King Hussein said that the Jordanian dinar was now at its real market value following the recent decline which is bound to lead to an increase in exports and assure the foreign investors that there will not be any further decreases in its value.

The high value of the dinar caused the Kingdom problems with exports but the decline, he said, is beneficial for the national economy, he said. Among reasons behind the decline in the value of the dinar, the King explained, was a halt of Arab financial aid to Jordan.

But, he added, Jordanians will soon realise that the recent developments were beneficial. He predicted that the national economy would regain its strength and that pressure from foreign debts would be reduced.

Confidence in government

King Hussein voiced confidence in the government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who, he said, had discharged his duties in accordance with royal directives.

The present stage requires stability, allowing the prime minister sufficient time to carry out his government's programmes, the King said.

Jordan's political life, the King added, is now in need of such stability under the present circumstances and the prime minister, who has proved his skill and tactfulness on the domestic and external fronts, will continue his duty to serve his country.

Figures show human, economic cost of uprising

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The Palestinian uprising against Israel's occupation of West Bank and Gaza Strip, which entered its second year on Friday, has exacted a high toll in casualties, arrests and financial losses.

Like most claims about the intifada, the exact statistics are often disputed.

The following figures for human and economic cost of the revolt were compiled from records of the Israeli defence ministry, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency

(UNRWA) for Palestine refugees, the Palestinian human rights group Al Haq, the Bank of Israel and hospitals in the occupied territories.

Where major discrepancies exist, several figures have been provided.

The discrepancy in the death toll is partly because Reuters figures include Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs on suspicion of collaborating with Israel. UNRWA and the defence ministry exclude these deaths.

Al Haq's figures include dozens of cases of Palestinians said to have died from teargas inhalation.

The human cost:

Palestinians killed — 330 (Reuters); 405 (Al Haq); 313 (UNRWA); 302 (defence ministry).

Palestinians wounded at least 20,000 (UNRWA, Al Haq — includes those treated in hospital for beatings, tear-gas); 3,640 (defence ministry — almost entirely gunshot wounds);

Israelis killed — 11 (defence ministry);

Israeli civilians wounded — 402 (defence ministry);

Israeli soldiers wounded — 730 (defence ministry);

Palestinians arrested — 20,000

(defence ministry);

Palestinians detained without trial — about 4,000 (of whom 1,450 are still held);

Palestinians now in jail — 5,521 (defence ministry);

Arabs homes demolished — 138 (defence ministry);

Palestinians expelled — 32 (defence ministry);

Expulsions pending — 27 (defence ministry);

Record days under curfew — 137 (Shat'i refugee camp, Gaza Strip);

Record non-stop curfew — 42 days (Jelazoun refugee camp);

Duration of compulsory military reserve duty for every adult

male Israeli under 55 — 62 days (1987 — 45 days);

The economic cost:

Additional cost to Israeli defence budget — \$250 million (defence ministry);

Estimated cost of uprising in loss of Israeli gross domestic product (GDP) — \$700 million (Bank of Israel);

Decline in tourism — 14 per cent (tourism ministry);

Decline in GDP of occupied territories due to uprising — more than 25 per cent (defence ministry);



Palestinians wearing makeshift uniforms salute a Palestinian flag in a military-style parade in the occupied West Bank town of Nablus

Palestinian women report sexual assault by Israeli police

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Israeli civil rights association filed a complaint Thursday saying that paramilitary border police severely beat six Palestinian women and sexually assaulted three of them in the occupied Gaza Strip.

The women, including one who was nine months pregnant, filed affidavits together with medical reports showing a border police raid in Khan Younis refugee camp had left one with a broken arm, another with broken teeth and a third with a broken eardrum.

A senior Israeli police officer said the border police were investigating the men involved in the incident.

Attacks on women and particularly sexual assaults have

been reported only rarely during the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Arab women say conservative Muslim society discourages them from lodging complaints when incidents occur. Few Palestinians believe such complaints receive a serious Israeli response.

The affidavits by members of the Abu Dakka family said that Oct. 19, as they walked to work, they were attacked and chased into a house by border policemen who teamed up to hold them, beat them and molest three of them.

"I asked the soldiers why they beat them. One soldier caught my hair, and two soldiers began to beat me all over my body, one with a club ... they beat us without discretion. One of the clubs broke on our bodies," Tahani Abu Dakka, 28, testified.

A soldier followed Tahani into her house and blocked her against a wall with his body, putting his hand under her blouse in front of members of her family and neighbours, she said.

Nabila Halil Abu Dakka, nine months pregnant, said she was beaten by several men with clubs and rifle butts.

Tamar Peleg, a lawyer with the civil rights association, told Reuters: "Here is a special case — women being beaten and also the sexual aspect — which really calls for action to stop it before it becomes a habit."

Reagan: PLO did not go far enough

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Thursday that the administration was willing to meet with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat after the PLO clearly recognises Israel.

"We are willing to meet with him, and talk with him, and I'm sure the Israelis would be, when once and for all it is clear-cut that he is ready to recognise Israel's right to be a nation," Reagan said in a nationally televised news conference.

The president said Arafat's statement Wednesday in Stockholm that the PLO recognises Israel and rejects terrorism "in all its forms" was not enough.

"He has left openings for himself where he can deny that he meant this or meant that, that sounded so clean-cut," Reagan said. "You could quote to him, 'Oh, you said this, but he's still in a position to say, 'Well yes, but wait a minute. I also said this. And then you find that the second 'this' kind of reduces or nullifies the first 'this'."

Reagan defended Secretary of State George Shultz's refusal to grant Arafat a visa to address the

U.N. General Assembly in New York.

"He (Shultz) can only grant a waiver if an individual meets certain requirements, and Arafat doesn't," Reagan said.

A senior U.S. State Department official said Thursday Arafat "fell short of the mark" this week in his statements on terrorism and Israel's right to exist.

Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, said a declaration issued in Algiers by the Palestine National Council (PNC) represented "progress towards the fundamental question of the acceptance of Israel."

But he said the Palestinian statement "failed to address clearly and explicitly the core issue of terrorism ... and failed to accept explicitly the right of Israel to exist."

"Yesterday, in Stockholm, Arafat took the process another step forward," Murphy said. "Still he fell short of the mark, but the progress is in the right direction and again is welcome."

Arafat, speaking in Stockholm after a meeting with U.S. Jews, said the PNC had, in effect,

"accepted the existence of Israel as a state in the region" and "declared its rejection of terrorism in all its forms."

"We accept two states: the Palestine state and the Jewish state of Israel," Arafat said.

Shultz said Wednesday that Arafat said he had not met explicit terms set by the United States as a precondition for entering a dialogue with the PLO.

Murphy commented at a symposium sponsored by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, hours after his return from a two-week trip to South Asia.

He said Shultz's decision to deny Arafat an entry visa "was not, nor could it be, directed in any way against Palestinians and their centrality to the peace process."

"No one contests the principle that legitimate Palestinian rights must be addressed and that Palestinians must participate at every stage of the negotiating process," Murphy said. "Without their participation ... and their acceptance of the final results, there can be no peace in the region."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

ICRC quits South Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has pulled its Swiss staff out of the southern port of Tyre, completing a suspension of operations in South Lebanon, spokeswoman Françoise Derron said Thursday. The move appeared designed to try to pressure the kidnappers of Red Cross delegate Peter Winkler to free him. He was grabbed in the southern provincial capital of Sidon Nov. 17. The ICRC had suspended its Sidon operations and withdrawn its six Swiss delegates from there shortly after Winkler's abduction. Derron said the three ICRC delegates posted in Tyre were withdrawn to Beirut Wednesday.

U.S. navy easing security in Gulf

NEW YORK (R) — The U.S. navy is easing security measures in the Gulf, but is not ready to reduce the size of its task force in the region, the New York Times reported Friday. The newspaper quoted unidentified administration officials as saying that under new, relaxed guidelines, the navy would no longer require warships to keep oil tankers in sight as they transit the volatile waterway. The navy will also allow its own ships to stay further from the shore stations for shore leave and resupply, the newspaper said. "We'll see how this works," one official was quoted as saying. "If there are any problems we'll be able to go back to closer protection quickly."

Paper publishes Reagan letter on Nir

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli newspaper Friday published a 1986 letter from U.S. President Ronald Reagan praising the activities of Amiram Nir, a former Israeli official implicated in the Iran-contra affair. Nir, who was an adviser to two Israeli prime ministers, died in a mysterious plane crash in Mexico Nov. 30. The letter, carried on the front page of the mass-circulation Hebrew daily Yediot Ahronot, said: "I want you to know of my personal gratitude and that of the people of the United States for the extraordinary efforts being undertaken on our mutual behalf by Mr. Amiram Nir." It continued: "As you are aware, he is participating in an endeavour of great importance to both our nations and peoples." The letter gave no details, but said Nir "serves both of our countries in a common cause." The letter was dated Oct. 3, 1986, and sent to then-Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

American University honours Mahfouz

CAIRO (AP) — The American University in Cairo announced Thursday a project to bring major Arabic-language literary works to the English-reading public in honour of Nobel literature laureate Naguib Mahfouz. The university, Mahfouz's English-language publisher and worldwide agent, also announced arrangements with publishers in 22 countries on four continents to publish the Egyptian's works in 13 languages. Egypt's most-read writer and one of the most popular in the Arab World, Mahfouz was selected in October to receive the 1988 Nobel Prize for Literature.

PoWs: Iran offered money, girls to stay

MOSUL (AP) — Repatriated Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) say Iranian officials offered them money and girls and intimidated them in an effort to persuade them from returning to Iraq. Speaking at a news conference late Wednesday, some 30 prisoners, repatriated for health reasons after the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war, said many Iraqi prisoners decided to stay in Iran after they were subject to different types of psychological pressures. Reporters were driven from Baghdad to Mosul, in northern Iraq, in buses to attend the conference at the Saddam General Hospital, where they are being treated. "They would tell us, 'we will arrange for you to marry a beautiful Iranian girl, get you a well-paid job, a house and a car, of you ask for political asylum and stay on in Iran,'" Osama Youssef Abdullah, a 29-year-old soldier, captured in 1981, a year after the war broke out.

Reagan repeats request for Iranian help

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan Thursday repeated his plea for Iranian help in winning the release of U.S. citizens held hostage in Lebanon, but administration spokesmen quickly made clear that he was not altering the U.S. policy against bargaining with "terrorists." Reagan, in his last White House news conference, also reiterated that he did not believe his administration was bargaining with "terrorists" when it entered into the Iran-contra affair. "We're looking at every channel that we can find to try and get them, and I imagine that the ultimate is going to have to be somehow a negotiation with Iran, because they have control of those people," Reagan said. "We are hopeful that there can be avenues that would open" for the release of the hostages, he said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
13:30 Koran
14:00 Football match
16:00 Children programme
16:45 Educational programmes
16:50 Circus
17:30 Educational programme
18:00 News summary
18:05 Message from Iraq
18:15 Local series
19:10 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:45 Local programme
22:35 Arabic play
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic play (contd.)

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 L'affaire Saint Romans
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties

19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
21:00 Saturday Variety Show
21:00 News in Arabic
22:30 Feature film: "Unholy Matrimony"

PRAYER TIMES

04:50 Fajr
06:20 (Sunrise) Duha
11:20 Twilight Zone
14:13 Asr
16:37 Maghreb
17:59 'Isha

CHURCHES

Assemblies of God Church. Tel. 632785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624500.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637400.
De la Saie Church Tel. 661757.
Terracons Church Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383. Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
Rabbi's Congregation Tel. 822805.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 818817, 821364.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be relatively warm with the appearance of medium and high clouds. Winds will be light and variable becoming southeasterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.
Min./max. temp. Amman 7/19

Agaba 13/27
Desserts 5/21
Jordan Valley 10/23
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 18, Agaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Agaba 30 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Hasham Abu Arqoub 891122
Dr. Daoud Al Samir 778526
Dr. Musa Basir 615487
Dr. Joseph Insh 770560
Firdous pharmacy 661912
Firdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 670055
Najm pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsam pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Mahmoud Khalil (—)
Al Sharrar pharmacy 985236
ZARQA:
Dr. Mishah Hijawi (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 198, 891228
Blood Bank 778303
Highway Police 643402
Traffic Police 639141
Public Security Directorate 656000 / 685111
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information

(directory assistance) 12
Overseas Calls 623101
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 771111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 648411, 636381
Company 06-53200
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 813813/2
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Abdali Maternity, J. Amn. 64244/2
Ajlun Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsani 664171/4
Shamsani Hospital 649131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37

Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajirin 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/25
Army, Marja 891611/16
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09/983323
Zarqa National Hospital 09/991071
Ibn Sina Hospital 09/986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital 02/275555
Greek Catholic Hospital 02/272775
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital 02/247100
AQABA:
Princess Maya Hospital 03/314111

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple 480 / 460
Banana 330 / 300
Banana (Mukammal) 300 / 220
Beans 470 / 400
Cabbage 140 / 120
Carrots 320 / 300
Cauliflower 260 / 200
Cucumbers 340 / 300
Dates 600 / 500
Eggplant (large) 90 / 60
Eggplant (small) 180 / 140
Garlic 220 / 270

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR: Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, a five-day regional conference on health and development organised by the World Health Organisation's Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, will be held in Amman Saturday. Taking part in the conference will be 39 experts from 20 countries from the Eastern Mediterranean region. (Petra)

HAMZEH IN ROME: Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Thursday represented Jordan at the celebration held by the Italian Health Ministry in Rome to mark the centennial anniversary of the enactment of the public health act, and spoke about Jordan's experience in the field of primary health care. (Petra)

EXEMPTION OF VEHICLES FROM DUTIES: Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khalid Al Haj Hassan has sent a memo to his Iraqi counterpart Muhammad Hamzeh Al Zubaidi requesting him to arrange for exempting Jordanian transport vehicles from the duties and fines similar to the step taken by the Jordanian authorities which have exempted Iraqi vehicles from such customs, in order to facilitate the smooth flow of transport between the two countries. The Iraqi authorities collect approximately JD 48 from Jordanian vehicles for each trip, in addition to JD 10-11 upon entry to and exit from Iraqi borders for organising the manifest. (Petra)

ARAB MARITIME BRIDGE TALKS: Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khalid Haj Hassan will head the Jordanian side to the meetings of the Arab Maritime Bridge, due to convene in the Egyptian capital of Cairo, Sunday. The company was set up in 1988 with a capital of \$6 million shared by Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat has set up a committee to take charge of matters related to pilgrimage to Mecca. The committee, which is chaired by Dr. Ahmad Hlayel, groups five members from the ministry who will arrange for the transportation and the accommodation of the Muslim pilgrims. (Petra)

UNDP PROJECTS: Representatives of U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) offices in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq Thursday concluded a two-day meeting in Amman during which they reviewed projects to be implemented in the four countries with UNDP assistance. The representatives adopted a number of resolutions which they said will be referred to the UNDP headquarters for approval. (Petra)

NEW STAMPS: Post offices around the Kingdom will Saturday sell stamps commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The stamps will be of 80 and 160 fils denominations. (Petra)

EMBEZZLER JAILED: The military court has sentenced Fahd Al Ahmad Hussein Khazaleh to five years in prison for embezzling public funds. The military governor Thursday endorsed the sentence. (Petra)

NEW DESIGNS FOR STAMPS: The Post Offices and Postal Savings Corporation announced a new competition for designing stamps for the year 1989 and called on all artists to call at the corporation to obtain copies of the specifications. The winner will be granted JD 100. (Petra)

ACO INCREASES AMOUNT OF REWARDS: The Doha-based Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) has increased its financial reward for the best architectural design to \$25,000 and has decided to raise to \$30,000, the value of the prize for the Arab architect's competition announced earlier this year. (Petra)

INCREASE IN CREDIT FACILITIES: Credit facilities offered by the commercial banks in Jordan to the various sectors increased from JD 1,513,033,000 to JD 1,619,773,000 during the first nine months of this year, thus representing an increase of JD 106,740,000 over last year's figures, according to the Central Bank's monthly statistical bulletin. (Petra)

NEW BUDGET FOR PORTS CORPORATION: The Jordanian Ports Corporation has endorsed a 1989 general budget and took decisions concerning facilities to be offered to Iraq at Aqaba for exporting its sulphur. According to a statement issued Thursday the corporation's 1989 budget will amount to JD 39 million of which JD 30 million will be expenses. (Petra)

Soviet exhibition opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A week-long exhibition of Soviet folk art was opened at the Soviet Cultural Centre in Amman Thursday. The exhibition which was opened by Mr. Bahjat Talhoumi, the president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society in Jordan, displays embroideries, ceramics and other traditional crafts in the Soviet Union. Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk and an audience of invited guests attended the opening ceremony.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ A plastic art exhibition by eight Jordanian artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in which more than 69 paintings are on display.
- ★ An exhibition on Aila, an Islamic medieval city, port of Palestine and the storehouse of Hijaz on the China Sea, at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre.
- ★ A combined exhibit of watercolours, oil paintings and prints including works by Firyal Azami, Diana Shamounki, Rima Farah, and few other artists, with a display of wall hangings by Yvonne Yassine on popular Nursery Rhyme Themes at the Hotel Jordan Intercontinental Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of drawings and watercolours of German Romanticism at the Fine Arts Department, the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An art exhibition by Iraqi artist Latif Etawi at Al Wasiti Gallery for plastic art — 6:00 p.m.
- ★ An art exhibition by Friends of Plastic Art in Gulf countries at the National Gallery.
- ★ The youth's art exhibition which displays 101 paintings showing the different aspects of social life in Jordan at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of ceramics by Iraqi artist Barwin Al Sarraf at Petra Bank Hall.
- ★ The Moldavian public art exhibition, which includes handicrafts, embroideries, and costumes representing the Moldavian folklore, at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of posters that show the dangers of AIDS at Al Raed Al Arabi School.

POETRY RECITAL

- ★ A poetry recital by Jordanian poets Shahla Khayyali and Basel Talhouzi at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:00 p.m.

THEATRE

- ★ An Arabic play entitled "Ya 'Anter" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 7:00 p.m.

LECTURES

- ★ Dr. Hartmut Bobzin will give two lectures, the first in Arabic at the University of Jordan, 12:00 noon, on the beginning of Western Arabic studies, the second (in English) at the Goethe Institute 7:00 p.m., on the study of the Holy Koran in Europe.



Al Hussein visits Prime Ministry

His Majesty King Hussein Thursday visited the Prime Ministry and met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai for some time. The monarch gave directives to the prime minister on a number of issues (Petra photo)

Joint group stresses importance of tourism in south Jordan, Sinai

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt have concluded a round of talks in Amman designed to promote their bilateral cooperation in regional planning, and teams from both sides agreed on number of steps considered as vital for integration process between the two countries.

The two teams laid emphasis to tourism in southern Jordan and Sinai and said that water and transport projects in the two regions should be given priority in the integration process.

They agreed to exchange expertise and conduct joint work in badia and rural regions of Sinai and Aqaba areas, to intensify search for underground water resources to help in implementing agricultural projects and coordinate their efforts in regional planning especially in the area of land

utilisation, according to statement that followed the final meeting.

The statement said that the two sides will conduct joint studies on sea water desalination to obtain potable water for the two regions, carry out joint efforts in the development of rural areas and agriculture in the desert regions, and create traditional and small industries.

The statement said the two sides decided to set up a joint committee to meet twice a year in order to follow steps taken in integrating the two regions and remove obstacles in joint projects.

The two teams will also help convene seminars and conferences to discuss issues of common interest especially in regional and national planning, and to ex-

change booklets, and other various publications containing studies in this field.

The joint committee will prepare plans for joint projects that will be discussed and approved by meetings of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee and will define schemes that should be given priority.

According to the statement, the two sides underlined the importance of land and its use for different purposes, and decided on measures to help specialists and engineers from both countries to embark on studies and plans in this respect.

The two sides also agreed on the need to launch joint training programmes for personnel from the two countries to carry out work on regional planning.

Pan-Arab meeting to work out strategy in science, technology

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates from Arab states and Arab League organisations will Saturday open a five-day meeting here to discuss organisation and management of scientific and technological research work and to work out a pan-Arab strategy in science and technology.

The meeting, organised by the Amman-based regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), will examine the prospect of coordinating the work of scientific research centres in the Arab World for the benefit of pan-Arab development.

The meeting will examine

means of developing and organising administration of training, the use of equipment and the creation of new units related to science and technology and their usefulness in serving development projects in the Arab World.

The status of consultancy firms and engineering offices and their application of results and findings of scientific and technological centres in their projects will also be discussed by the delegates.

The delegates will look into the prospect of introducing legislation covering the work of scientists, will study the proposed "green-belt" scheme for North African Arab countries, as well as

four working papers dealing with experiments of Jordan, Egypt, Somalia and Saudi Arabia in the scientific and technological fields.

A total of 24 delegates representing Jordanian ministries, the Royal Scientific Society, Jordanian universities and the Higher Council for Science and Education will represent Jordan at the meeting which will be attended also by delegates from Qatar, Lebanon, Somalia, South and North Yemen, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Syria, Mauritania, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain in addition to the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences.

Expedition surveys area around 'Ain Ghazal archaeological site

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint expedition between the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University and the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada System, with the cooperation of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, has recently completed an archaeological survey of portions of the Greater Amman area.

The project, led by Dr. Zeidan Kafafi of Yarmouk University and Dr. Alan Simmons of the Desert Research Institute, had two specific research projects.

The first was to complete a survey within a one kilometre radius of the important Neolithic (ca. 7,500-5,500 B.C.) site of 'Ain Ghazal, located near Marka, adjacent to the Amman-Zarqa highway. This site, which has been under investigation since 1981 by a combined expedition of researchers from Yarmouk University, the Desert Research Institute, University of Nevada System, and San Diego State University, is one of the most significant early villages known in the Near East.

Previous studies have concentrated on the site itself and archaeologists have little knowledge of the area surrounding it. Considering the rapid pace of development in Amman, it was decided that a survey of the immediate vicinity around 'Ain Ghazal was critical. Thus, the

first objective was to document all archaeological sites adjacent to 'Ain Ghazal before they disappear due to construction.

The second objective was to expand the survey area to the largely undeveloped region northeast of 'Ain Ghazal.

One goal here was to determine if the large community of 'Ain Ghazal was surrounded by smaller Neolithic support sites. Another goal was to document the complete range of human occupation in the region.

The survey, completed over a period of four weeks, covered an area of some 8.4 square kilometres and recorded a total of 81 archaeological sites, including 'Ain Ghazal.

A wide range of time periods was represented, with the earliest materials probably dating to the Middle Paleolithic period. The latest materials dated to the Ayyubid/Mamluk period, but these were rare.

Surprisingly, few materials from the classical period of Amman's history were recorded in the surveyed area.

Out of the 81 sites, 12 were identified as Neolithic or probable Neolithic. The greatest concentration of Neolithic sites was around 'Ain Ghazal; however, the sites recorded in this area may represent actual extensions of 'Ain Ghazal itself rather than

separate localities.

Another concentration of Neolithic sites was near the confluence of Wadi Zarqa and Wadi Huweijja.

Almost all of these belong to a little understood class of Neolithic sites known as burn sites.

Based on research in the Black Desert, these probably date to the latest ceramic Neolithic and are characterised by high number of burins, which are specialised tools.

Some of these sites also were associated with features that might represent animal runs or "kites," but this relationship is still unclear. None of these sites appear to represent substantial occupations; rather they undoubtedly reflect short-term camps.

Another category of sites that is difficult to interpret are rjum sites.

These are characterised by piles of stones. Sometimes the outline of a structure can be determined in these, but frequently they exhibit little patterning. In many instances, rjum sites contain no ceramics, but at those sites that do contain these artifacts, Iron Age II (ca. 900-500 B.C.) sherds appear dominant.

Until some of these obscure features are excavated, their function must remain unknown.

French quartet to play in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Messiaen Quartet, named after the celebrated French composer Olivier Messiaen, will perform Tuesday at the Bac laureate School theatre, the French Cultural Centre has announced.

I said the members of the quartet, which gained wide acclaim in the field of chamber music, are drawn from the

orchestra of the Paris Opera and the Orchestre de Paris.

The inclusion of the clarinet allows the quartet to undertake an unusually wide repertoire from Mozart to Messiaen, according to a press release.

I said the quartet will perform a programme of French music by Ravel, Messiaen and Troncin. By taking the name of the composer

Olivier Messiaen, the quartet has shown its design to make people more familiar with contemporary music.

In bestowing his name on the quartet, Messiaen reportedly said: "Having heard this group play my quartet for the end of time, I was most impressed by their technique, their ensemble playing, and beautiful tone. I am happy for them to carry my name."

Ministry team reviews plan to rid country of homeless and beggars

AMMAN (Petra) — A general meeting was held at the Ministry of Social Development in Amman Thursday to discuss the question of the homeless and beggars in the Kingdom, and to examine a general plan by the ministry to find solutions for their problems.

Delegates from various government departments and institutions who attended the meeting, reviewed a survey conducted by the Ministry of Social Development to determine the volume of people who have no homes and those who beg their living off the streets in Jordanian towns and cities. They also looked into measures that should be adopted in dealing with the problem.

The director of Studies Department at the ministry said that information provided through the survey was bound to help planners to control and contain the problem.

The ministry's survey, he said, covered the number of homeless persons, causes for their present condition and proposed solutions.

According to a statement issued at the end of the meeting more information will have to be collected about the vagabonds and beggars, with the help of social and voluntary agencies, before measures can be taken.

It said that a team involved in the plan is studying laws and legislations on the state of the homeless people.

A report published in July 1988 said that a large number of beg-

gars and vagabonds had been removed from the streets and their cases were processed by the concerned authorities before solutions for their problems could be found.

The report indicated that many non-Jordanians found drifting without work permits were sent back to their home countries.

The report, published in Al Rai' Arabic daily quoted a police spokesman as saying that a special force, working in groups had been entrusted with carrying out the task of cleansing Amman of vagabonds and beggars that used to infest the streets and alleys.

Public Security Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali announced in April that 583 beggars had been rounded up in Amman at the start of the campaign. He said that 98 of the apprehended beggars were found to be non-Jordanians and 273 of the rest were minors, mostly schoolchildren.



Princess Basma opens art exhibition

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Thursday opened an art exhibition by 18 artists from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. The Princess toured the exhibition, inspecting the different works of plastic art which will remain on display

for a whole month. Attending the opening ceremony with the Princess at the Jordan Fine Arts Gallery was Princess Wijdan Ali and an audience of invited guests (Petra photo)

New private university to have a capital of JD 11.1 million

AMMAN (J.T.) — A constituent committee preparing for the creation of a private university in Jordan has decided that the capital of the new project should be JD 11.1 million and that its name will be the University of Applied Sciences.

The decision was taken at a meeting held under the chairmanship of Dr. Saleh Khasawneh, Secretary General of the Ministry of Labour, and in the presence of Dr. Saif Ramahi, the general coordinator of the constituent committee, and Sa'id

Hiyyat from the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic daily Friday said the committee discussed procedural matters, the registration of the new company, and decided on its next meeting which will be on Jan. 12, 1989.

Seminar calls for centre to analyse information on occupational injuries

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on industrial safety was concluded in Amman Wednesday, with the participants recommending the establishment of a national centre to take charge of collecting and analysing information and data related to occupational injuries, and providing consultancy services in safety measures at industries.

The seminar, which was attended by delegates from Jordan and nine other Arab states, called on Arab countries to adopt comprehensive policies on industrial safety that are in harmony with economic and social development plans, appealed to concerned authorities to issue regulations and enact laws and legislations to impose safety pre-

cautions in industrial businesses and train personnel in safety matters.

They underlined the role of media in spreading awareness on occupational safety and its importance in social, economic and other fields, and emphasised the importance of specific standards in all matter related to industry.

Etawi's oil paintings are unified by strong palette of bright colours

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the Al Wasiti Art Gallery this week and until the end of the month is an exhibition of paintings by the Iraqi artist, Lateef Etawi. Now living in Rome where he continued his studies after graduating from the Academy of Fine Arts in Baghdad in 1979, Etawi produces works in oil the subject matter of which range from Baghdad street scenes, through still lifes, to horses and abstracts, all of which are unified by strong palette of bright, often raw, colours.

ART REVIEW

Among the most interesting of Etawi's work are the abstracts which escape the rather commercial feel of the street scenes and the overworked symbolism of the horse. Full of rich, if at times acerbic, colours these abstracts resolve themselves into images of lush gardens where leaves twist and swirl themselves into Arabic letters and symbols. Piled up bonfire like these leaves lead the eye into a street where towering palms stand out against a neon sky, their shadows dancing in the wet pavement below. These paintings are a strange mixture of abstract which merges into realism, of tropical greenery that contrasts vividly with the garish urban surroundings, of man made day that invades the dark all of which captures the innate unease of the big city at night.

Etawi's studies of Middle Eastern still life objects — grapes, dates, bronze vases set against hand woven rugs — are well executed, the artist managing to give the works light, texture and depth. Equally well painted and more inspired are the works where galloping horses kick up a dust cloud of crescents and arabic letters.

The exhibition runs until Dec. 30.



Gallopers kick up a dust cloud of crescents and Arabic letters by the Iraqi artist Lateef Etawi at the Wasiti Gallery.

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Human rights — not culture bound

TOGETHER with the whole international community Jordan today marks the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which the United Nations General Assembly had adopted and proclaimed by Resolution 217 A(III) on Dec. 10, 1948, as a common human rights standard for all peoples and nations.

In the eighth paragraph of the prologue to the Declaration, the General Assembly of the United Nations called on all states to strive by teaching and education to promote respect for the rights and freedoms outlined in the Declaration in order to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance. It is fitting to recall on this occasion that contrary to the widespread view that the Declaration was coined by Western culture and super imposed on other civilisations, the cardinal principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in fact drew heavily on the precepts of the three major monotheistic religions of the world and on the guiding lights of the three principal revolutions of the world, namely the French, American and Soviet revolutions.

The Arab and Islamic worlds must be proud of their civilisations' contributions to the articulation and formulation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Suffice it to recall the pivotal role that the late Charles Malik of Lebanon had performed in the drafting of the Declaration (together with other Arab and Islamic diplomats and statesmen assigned to the United Nations in that era).

It is also important to recall on this occasion that more relevant than legislations in the endeavour to promote and protect human rights worldwide is the need to create a culture favourable to the cause of human rights in any given country. As long as there are no deep rooted individual and national behaviours supportive of human rights, no amount of laws would be sufficient to affect genuine respect and observance of human rights. Nevertheless, the process of realising an environment — political, economic, social and cultural — favourable to the cause of human rights requires a systemic national effort to educate the people from all sectors of society, including those directly responsible for law and order, in the art of reconciling respect and observance of human rights with the collective human rights for positive stability and enlightened security.

It is self evident, as borne out by repeated lessons of history, that lasting and durable peace and genuine stability in any given nation rest squarely on adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which began the various legally binding international covenants and instruments on human rights.

Loaded words on Jordan

The following article by Jordan's ambassador to the U.S. appeared in The Washington Post on Nov. 26. Hammami's article was in response to an article that appeared on Nov. 7 by the Post's Middle East correspondent Patrick Tyler. Tyler, quoting unnamed sources, charged that Jordan's severance of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank had resulted in an economic crisis fuelled by uncertainties over the future of Jordanians of Palestinian origin in Jordan.

By Hussein A. Hammami

IN WEAVING the threads of Jordan's economic situation into the political war of Jordanian-Palestinian relations, Patrick Tyler Nov. 7 attempts to create an exaggerated image out of a random collection of presumptions and rumour. Considering the seriousness of the allegations made, his article would have been more credible and accurate had the statements been based on supporting facts rather than anonymous sources.

The article's lead sentence, according to an unnamed source, sweepingly describes King Hussein as "isolated within a small circle of advisers" and charges government ministers with " rampant corruption." But nowhere in Tyler's lengthy piece does he follow up his sensational lead with the details a reader would expect. He drops his loaded words and goes on to other matters.

A correspondent with Tyler's experience in Middle East coverage should have more knowledge of King Hussein's character — of how closely and sensitively His Majesty keeps his hand on the pulse of public opinion, and how carefully his political decisions are made to reflect the will of Jordan's citizens and of Arab Nation in general. King Hussein's 36 years of leadership have proved his strength as one of the wisest and most adept figures in Middle East politics.

This is not the first time Jordan has had to face economic difficulties. It is a small country of limited resources and in good times as well as bad it has always had to seek outside support in building its economy. Out of little, it has achieved much. Furthermore, Jordan enjoys worldwide recognition for its clean and efficient government.

Jordan's economic problems should not be attributed to the impact of recent political developments. It is to be expected that Jordan's July 31 political decision to sever its legal and administrative links with the West Bank would have some economic repercussions, but this certainly does not mean, as Tyler's article implies, that Jordan will "sink or swim" depending on the politics of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. The government's recent economic measures, such as restricting imports of luxury goods and limiting the outflow of hard currency, are specifically aimed at halting heavy consumer spending and gearing the economy toward increased domestic productivity. As Tyler's article notes, Arab and foreign aid to Jordan has been steadily decreasing for the past few years, because of the drop in oil prices. The consequent recession has had a cumulative impact not only on Jordan but on the region as a whole.

Regarding the implications of Jordan's West Bank decision on the status of Jordanians of Palestinian origin, these people will continue to retain all their rights as full-fledged Jordanian citizens, as guaranteed by the constitution. As for the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank, special consideration has been given to their status. They will continue to carry Jordanian passports, valid for two years and renewable until the day they will be able to hold their own Palestinian passports.

As for the "political participation of the people," it has by no means been "destroyed". The recent dissolution of Jordan's parliament (in which West Bank Palestinians had been represented) was a necessary and logical consequence of the legal severance of ties between the two banks. Full political involvement by all Jordanian citizens will resume with parliamentary elections, to be held after the necessary amendment of electoral laws. Furthermore, no one can serve as a member of Jordan's legislative body if he is a member of another, such as the Palestine National Council.

The change in "management" of the press reported by Tyler was prompted by the need to separate newspaper ownership from editorial policy in the media. The new editorial managers are by no means "tyrants and cronies" of the government. They are among the country's leading journalists, widely respected and holding long-established credentials.

Unfortunately, Tyler's article paints the situation in Jordan with a sensational brush. While it is true that Jordan is passing through some difficulties, its national health, economically, politically and socially, remains sound. As in the past, it will overcome the challenge and continue to enjoy its hard-won stability and democratic way of life.

Universal declaration of human rights

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realisation of this pledge,

Now, Therefore,
The General Assembly
proclaims
This Universal Declaration
of Human Rights

as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Article 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 3

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 6

Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Article 7

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Article 8

Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts of violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10

Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Article 11

(1) Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.

(2) No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.

(2) — Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 14

(1) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

(2) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 15

(1) Everyone has the right to a nationality.

(2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

Article 16

(1) Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

(2) Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.

(3) The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.

Article 17

(1) Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.

(2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20

(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

(2) No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

Article 21

(1) Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

(2) Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his

country.

(3) The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Article 22

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realisation, through national effort and international cooperation, in accordance with the organisation and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 23

(1) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and protection against unemployment.

(2) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

(3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.

(4) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 24

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 25

(1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

(2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

(1) Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

(2) Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

(3) Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 27

Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

(2) Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Article 28

Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realised.

Article 29

(1) Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.

(2) In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.

(3) These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 30

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights or freedoms set forth herein.

100,000 killed in Armenia earthquake

(Continued from page 1)

Cuba and Britain, arrived in Moscow in the predawn hours, TASS said. He was expected to travel to the stricken area.

Turkey said Friday it would open its border with Soviet Armenia to provide all possible help for the victims of the earthquake.

The quake also rippled across wide areas of Turkey's mountainous Kars province, killing at least four people and leaving more than 1,000 homeless.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Baru said Turkey was ready to help the Soviet Union in every way following the quake which measured 6.9 on the open-ended Richter scale.

"If the transfer of relief supplies over or through Turkey is

the most practical way, Turkey will certainly not put up any obstacles. This is a humanitarian issue," he said.

The earthquake destroyed two-thirds of Leninakan, Armenia's second-largest city, a TV correspondent said. TASS said half the building in Kirovakan, a city of 150,000, had crumbled.

A special meeting of representatives of all 15 Soviet republics has called in Yerevan to discuss disaster relief.

An international airlift of emergency medical supplies, food, special equipment and dogs to help search for survivors began Friday. A spokesman for Yerevan's Zvartnots airport said planes had arrived from France, Belgium and Bulgaria and that many more were expected from around the world.

At least 12,000 troops were leading attempts to pull survivors from huge mounds of rubble — all that remained of many buildings in Spitak, Leninakan, Kirovakan and other affected cities.

The Armenpress spokesman in Yerevan said the priority of Armenians was not to keep a casualty count, but "how to rescue people from under the ruins and how to give others a proper, dignified burial."

Friday and Saturday were declared days of mourning in Armenia for victims of the earthquake, the worst in Transcaucasia this century.

In Baku, the Azerbaijani foreign ministry spokesman said there had been a substantial increase in the number of refugees crossing the border in both directions since the earthquake.

Palestinians mark revolt with defiance

(Continued from page 1)

things and erase the will for independence from people's consciousness," Shomron told the Maariv daily.

Uprising leaders lit a dozen torches overnight on the Eilat Mountain in the West Bank to symbolise 12 months of the Palestinian rebellion.

Slogans painted on the walls of the Tulkarem refugee camp declared: "Happy new year to the Intifada."

Palestinian demonstrators clashed with troops in the Balata and Al Fara refugee camps near Nablus following Friday prayers.

Hospital officials said four Palestinians were wounded, including a 22-year-old man shot in the mouth.

In Jerusalem, four Israeli cars were torched overnight, and

police discovered a Palestinian flag nearby, a police spokesman said. A note written in Hebrew in support of the uprising also was found, Israel Radio said.

Two left-wing legislators said in a report Friday that the year-long uprising had become institutionalised and was "gaining in strength" contrary to army predictions.

Yossi Sarid and Dedi Zucker of the Citizens' Rights Movement said that the 70,000 Jewish settlers living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip had become "a garrison force" seldom called to answer for their "wild deeds."

According to the report, published in the English-language Jerusalem Post, 16 Palestinians have been killed by settler gunfire during the uprising.

The report also accused the

army of doing little to punish troops who violated standing orders on the treatment of Palestinians.

It said 600 cases of alleged violations had been opened, but only 20 soldiers had so far been brought to trial.

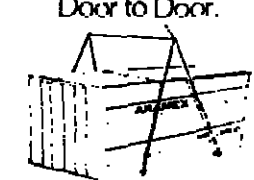
Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said the uprising would continue but stressed he wanted to establish contacts with the United States to achieve peace.

"We should continue and develop the uprising together with diplomatic action with both friends and enemies," Arafat said on Abu Dhabi television.

"It depends on Israel. If it wants peace, we are for it, and if it wants war, it is welcome," the PLO chairman added.

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The New York Times: Gutter press

FIT TO PRINT: A.M. ROSENTHAL AND HIS TIMES. By Joseph Goulden. Lyle Stuart: 486 pages; \$21.95

ABOUT halfway through "Fit To Print," Joseph Goulden's start-up biography of A.M. Rosenthal, the retired executive editor of the New York Times, the author relates that his subject was once asked how he edits the newspaper. "With my stomach," replied Rosenthal. "When you read a story that has a knife in it, that has an unfair twist, it makes you uneasy to read it."

The uneasiness is there with this biography. Not that there is any reason to doubt Goulden's

lives to him. Nothing is left unsaid about Rosenthal. The book is a voyeur's dream, and must have brought joy to New York's gossip circuit.

But is it necessary? Rosenthal's career, wrapped as it is in the Times, is a worthy subject, but does he deserve to be dissected in public? Goulden would undoubtedly say that, as executive editor of the Times, Rosenthal held a position of almost unparalleled power in American journalism. His decisions affected the knowledge and opinions of millions. This is true, but the book's carping, deserved or otherwise, about Rosenthal's personality swamps the real story, which is of how the Times fared during his tenure (it thrived, but there were costs).

Less rancour about Rosenthal's character would have strengthened the book. The strongest parts are those in which Goulden discusses the way the Times covers news (the embracing of "soft" news coverage that supposedly appeals to yuppies, for example, over hard-bitten investigative journalism). Here, for the layman, are some real hints as to how the news is brought to him—or not, in some instances. The story of the Times and its coverage during Rosenthal's career is, after all, the story of America over the past four or five decades.

A crippled, insecure youth who thought he might make a career in the postal service, Rosenthal instead rose to dazzling heights in journalism. "Fit To Print" traces that climb, but does so in a way that leaves the reader shell-shocked. If Rosenthal is half the person suggested by Goulden, readers may be thankful that they never had to work for him. If Rosenthal is not, then he has been rendered a great disservice—The Economist.

BOOK REVIEW

fairness. He has never worked for Rosenthal and gives no indication that he has any animosity towards him. Rather the uneasiness comes from the necessity of painting so miserable a picture of the man who ran the Times. Rosenthal emerges in the book as such an agree, albeit a talented one, that one is left almost reeling. Nor does it comfort the reader to know that many of the 317 people interviewed by Goulden have apparently been slighted in one way or another by Rosenthal over the years. Revenge, on or off the record, is sweet.

Anecdote follows anecdote. A news assistant is dismissed after daring to ask Rosenthal a question and then referring to him as managing, rather than executive, editor. Reporters are sent to journalistic Coventry because they dared cross him. Talented journalists are driven away from the Times. Rosenthal abandons people who have dedicated their



Learning to write, to use computers and fix electronic machines, are some of the skills taught at the Al Hussein Society for Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.



A stretched out hand helps them stand

By Suhair M. Obeidat
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I wish to grow up to be a pilot." It sounds like a spontaneous statement by an ordinary ten-year-old boy; but the fact that Mahmoud Haidar is physically handicapped is what makes his wish so far-fetched.

Even though he cannot become a pilot, Mahmoud might very well become a productive member of society, as he is one of 150 children yearly benefiting from the services of Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

"This is the only society in Jordan that educates and rehabilitates physically handicapped children," President of the Society Her Royal Highness Princess Majida Ra'd said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

Originally founded as the Al Hussein Society for Child Welfare, today the five-year-old society looks back with pride upon its achievements.

The origins of the society go back to 1972 when a group of ladies helped collect money for

the government orphanage. And then in 1973 when three small orphanages merged into a large one, again the ladies offered their help and friendship. They collected enough money to employ extra staff and to repair and expand the orphanage.

Then came their visit to the rehabilitation centre in Al Ashrafieh which was started by the British Cheshire Foundation. By that time it was government-run as a care home for the handicapped children after they underwent surgery at Al Bashir Hospital.

The centre lacked a lot of facilities, so the ladies gathered the money that helped in sending some handicapped children to the United States for medication.

At a later stage they took a room at Al Ashrafieh Orphanage where they lodged three handicapped teenage girls.

From there they grew so much in size that they opened a care centre at Um Utheinah, which also functioned as a school and a small rehabilitation centre.

Surprisingly enough and with no apparent reasons, the Ministry

of Health shut down Al Ashrafieh centre; despite the fact that it was badly needed and that it served a purpose.

"This was not at all our intention. It only increased burden on us and soon the villa in Um Utheinah became so crowded with help-needing patients that we seriously had to look for another alternative," Princess Majida said.

"We already had a piece of land and the whole project was designed by Swedish engineers. Yet there remained the problem of funding, until we received big grants from Sultan Qaboos of Oman and the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF).

"The QAF not only helped fund the project but built it and handed it over to us to start our services from here," Princess Majida said. "And so we fulfilled our dream of a suitably equipped centre for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped."

Medical care

The Amman centre handles cases of poliomyelitis amputation, congenital malformation, spina bifida, slight brain damage, muscular dystrophy and paraplegia.

Medical care is provided twice a week by a pediatrician from the Ministry of Health and a 24-hour nursing service. The mobile clinic, a present from the Italian government enables the centre's staff to make visits to camps and rural areas to help the handicapped children there.

Out-patients can also benefit from the facilities offered by the physiotherapy and hydrotherapy departments. The objectives of this department are to increase the patients' mobility and to help them reach maximum possible freedom of movement.

The Occupational Therapy Department in the centre deals with everyday living activities of the patients, such as hygiene, sitting postures and holding of pens and utensils.

Children are taught to get dressed by themselves and to look after themselves.

All the necessary aids prescribed by the doctor and the therapist are produced by the Medical Engineering Department. Braces, splints, plaster works, artificial limbs, orthopedic

shoes and crutches are all manufactured at the centre. The department also repairs and adjusts wheelchairs.

Elementary school

The most important part of the centre is the elementary school which follows the Ministry of Education's syllabus. So during their treatment periods, children receive normal school education.

"Ideally, physically handicapped children should not be put in separate schools but in normal schools. There is a certain group of slow learners who are mildly retarded, and therefore do not fit in any of the existing schools. A great number of them are in desperate need of help so we have to give importance to this specific problem in our society. We must concentrate on the handicapped people's needs," Princess Majida said.

"Another problem is that the school is only from grade one to five so education inevitably stops for those who cannot be accepted in normal schools," the Princess added.

Unfortunately, there are more facilities in the Kingdom for the mentally handicapped than those for the physically handicapped, "in its ongoing efforts to help the physically handicapped to lead as normal lives as possible, the centre, with the help of charitable organisations, constructed a radio and television repair centre. The handicapped students study there for two years, after which they receive a certificate accredited by the Ministry of Labour in repairing television, radio and video sets," Princess Majida said.

The society used to give lessons in typing and dressmaking, but stopped them because the handicapped girls were not able to

make enough money to become really independent, they also faced transport problems from home to work.

Secretarial lessons were inadequate because teenage handicapped girls are usually illiterate, so it was difficult to place them in secretarial jobs or jobs that required the use of computers.

As for board and lodging, the society houses 40 girls and boys in addition to the twelve male students at the TV and Radio Repair Centre. "However, this is not a care home. We cannot keep our patients here forever. We have to have a place to host new patients," Princess Majida explained.

Families are encouraged to visit their children and to take them home over the weekends in order to keep up family ties, because the longer they stay isolated the more difficult it becomes to resettle them. Such cases occurred with boys and girls who stayed in Al Ashrafieh Orphanage were very hard to successfully resettle. They became institutionalised, it was very difficult to persuade them to go back home, in some cases their families refused to take them back, the Princess said. "We constantly face mental obstacles from the patients' families and the society, their attitudes and barriers that are hard to break through."

"We sometimes bring back earlier students if some special difficulty occurs for immediate help," Princess Majida added.

A success story

One of the success stories of the society is a handicapped girl, who improved her education until she qualified to teach. She is the first handicapped teacher accepted by the Ministry of Education to teach at the society. She now lives independently with two other handicapped girls.

"For funding, the society depends on charity and donations from generous people; as there is no social welfare system. And we are in competition with many other organisations in trying to collect money to cover our expenses," Princess Majida said.

As part of their fund-raising drive, the society is holding a bazaar at the Marriott Hotel on Dec. 11, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma. Twelve embassies will take part in the bazaar.



Gebelawi's children are banned by Al Azhar

By Sara Al Gammal
Reuters

CAIRO — Egyptian religious authorities have banned serialisation of a novel by Egypt's Nobel prize-winning author Naguib Mahfouz, seven weeks after he won the prestigious award for literature.

Mahfouz, the first Arab writer to win the Nobel Prize, said he did not want "Children of Our Alley" to be published without the approval of Al-Azhar, the highest religious body in mainly Muslim Egypt.

Sheikh Fathallah Al Gizawi, an Al Azhar official, told Reuters Tuesday (Dec. 6) the novel, banned 20 years ago, was still considered "destructive of (Islamic) values and was defamatory to Islamic prophets."

"He (Mahfouz) ridicules the prophets. We as Muslims cannot allow such a thing. The fact that he has won a Nobel Prize will not change the ban imposed since 1968," Al Gizawi added.

The evening newspaper Al Massa surprised many last week by printing a first instalment of "Children of Our Alley", which Al Azhar originally banned as blasphemous — a charge Mahfouz denied.

Al Azhar, which has the power to ban books on religious grounds, renewed its objections when the serialisation appeared and a radio show announced plans to broadcast an old recorded version.

The newspaper dropped this week's episode and said it had stopped the serialisation at



Cairo, gave Mahfouz one setting for many of his novels.

Some characters who emerge as leaders could be seen as allegorical representations of figures revered by Christianity and Islam.

In Al Massa, the 76-year-old Nobel laureate said that he respected Al Azhar's ban but repeated that his novel was not blasphemous. He said it was not history, but a literary work full of symbolism.

President Hosni Mubarak, giving Mahfouz Egypt's highest civil award last month, said he would consider allowing publication of banned books that did not have court orders issued against them.

Al Massa editor Samir Ragab said that he published parts of "Children of Our Alley" because it was not legally banned and he

wanted to honour Mahfouz for winning the Nobel Prize.

Mahfouz's two daughters, Om Kolthoum and Fatima, will travel to Stockholm to receive the award on his behalf Sunday.

Hardcover editions of "Children of Our Alley" published in Beirut can be found in some Cairo bookstores but are only sold as part of Mahfouz's collected works. No Egyptian editions are known to be available.

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World trade debates conclude inconclusively

MONTREAL (R) — World trade ministers finished negotiations here Thursday without agreeing on four of 15 topics and gave the head of GATT four months to resolve outstanding differences, a GATT spokesman said.

The spokesman, David Woods, said senior trade ministers had asked the director-general of the world trade body to consult senior government officials on points that could not be settled in Montreal.

The unresolved points included the dispute between the United States and the European Community (EC) over agricultural subsidies, he said.

"Now is a good time to have a cooling off period," U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter told reporters.

Trade ministers tentatively agreed to shift the meeting to Geneva, the headquarters of the world trade body, because of the inability to settle their disagreements.

"The mid-term meeting is prolonged until April," said EC Trade Commissioner Willy De Clercq.

A late night meeting of senior trade ministers chaired by Uruguayan Economics and Finance Minister Ricardo Zerbino decided GATT governments needed more time to reconcile differences on four areas, including trade in farm goods and textiles, and rules to protect copyrights and patents.

Woods said the deal was designed to safeguard progress made during four difficult days of talks here on other areas of trade liberalisation.

Delegates said the move would also serve to head off a threat by a group of developing countries to block tentative accords already reached on the 11 other issues.

The developing countries were angered by the inability of the United States and the EC to resolve their dispute over farm trade reforms and come up with concrete measures to cut subsidies.

A meeting of second-tier officials in Geneva has been set for the first week of April, at which GATT Director-General Arthur Dunkel was to make a report on progress made in his mediation efforts.

It will be up to Dunkel to arrange meetings between delegations to try to move the Uruguay Round forward.

"Everybody now needs to go home to assess the debate in agriculture," said Yeutter, who will be stepping down before President-elect Bush assumes office Jan. 20.

Delegates said Zerbino's plan also had the advantage of enabling Bush and the woman he has named to succeed Yeutter, Carla Hills, to settle into their new positions.

The major hurdles that Dunkel will face in his crucial role as mediator in Geneva include efforts strongly supported by industrialised countries to draft international rules protecting against piracy of intellectual property.

The United States and the EC broke off agriculture talks earlier Thursday after their last-ditch effort to heal a deep rift foundered.

Earlier Australian Trade Negotiations Minister Michael Duffy said a farm trade war was a distinct possibility, stating bluntly: "We are staring down the barrel of that."

The move to adjourn the talks without trying to reach final agreement in any of the 15 negotiating areas and to set April as

the next stage for talks appeared to be an attempt to defuse tensions that had built up over the week-long bargaining.

U.S. and EC negotiators engaged in bitter, at times public, exchanges as the talks wore on. The final collapse of farm negotiations provoked anger from developing countries and veiled threats from the United States and EC that they might find it difficult to avoid a trade war.

Developing nations such as Argentina and Brazil, caught in the crossfire, threatened to block agreement on other areas of trade liberalisation.

The head of Argentina's delegation, Planning Minister Bernardo Grinspun, told Reuters: "If there is no agreement in agriculture, there will be no agreement in other areas... is that clear?"

The talks achieved an early breakthrough Monday when ministers agreed to open up industrial nation markets on an annual volume of \$25 billion to \$35 billion of Third World products such as coffee, cocoa and tea.

Washington signalled Thursday evening that it would also lower tariffs on selected goods, aligning itself with the other GATT members' concessions. Previously, it had withheld its agreement to the deal.

Ministers had also tentatively approved plans to liberalise trade in services, cut industrial tariffs and allow the GATT to monitor members' trade policies.

Other than agriculture and intellectual property, areas still being debated included textile trade, important to many Third World countries, and limits on recourse to a GATT rule allowing import barriers under special circumstances.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Iraq totally abandons Syrian pipeline

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi said in an interview published Thursday that Baghdad has totally abandoned plans to reactivate the trans-Syrian pipeline used to transport Iraqi crude to the Mediterranean until 1982. "We've dropped this from our calculation and we have no intention of revising this decision," he was quoted as saying in the Jeddah-based Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat. The pipeline had a capacity of 120,000 barrels and used to transport 30 per cent of Iraqi crude oil to Mediterranean outlets. Baghdad developed outlets to the Mediterranean and Red seas via Turkey and Saudi Arabia. It was not immediately clear whether Iraqi claims for compensation from Syria had been dropped.

'Swiss banks help criminals go free'

GENEVA (R) — Swiss banks have enabled criminals to go free by telling them that they were under investigation, an Italian judge said in an interview published Thursday. Mario Vaudano, a Turin magistrate who specialises in financial crime, told the Swiss weekly L'Espresso that Swiss delays of up to five years in providing information meant criminals often went unpunished. Asked if Swiss banks were guilty of obstruction, he said: "They do worse, sometimes. Swiss banks have informed their clients that criminal investigations have been opened against them and let them quietly empty their accounts. In Italy, a judge would not tolerate that." Vaudano said Switzerland played a central role in the operations of money-launderers, who channel money through numerous bank accounts to disguise its criminal origin.

Bankers to get \$711m for Nabisco deal

ATLANTA, Georgia (AP) — Bankers will reap more than \$700 million in fees for their participation in history's largest deal, according to government documents filed after the \$24.53 billion buyout of RJR Nabisco Inc. Documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission suggest investment and commercial bankers would get as much as \$711.88 million in fees for arranging the financing of \$109 cash-and-securities offer for each share of RJR stock. Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc. would take home the lion's share of the fees, getting an estimated \$226.88 million. Merrill Lynch and Co. would receive \$109.38 million, while Morgan Stanley and Co. and Wasserstein, Perella and Co. would get \$25 million each. In addition, a syndicate of four banks — Bankers Trust Co., Chase Manhattan Bank, Citibank and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co. — would split \$325 million for lining up \$14.5 billion in bank loans. Drexel also could end up with four per cent of RJR Nabisco, while Merrill Lynch would get two per cent.

Lloyd's punishes four underwriters

LONDON (R) — Lloyd's of London said Thursday it had fined four underwriters £150,000 (\$279,000) each and expelled two of them from its insurance market for improper business conduct. Lloyd's alleged the underwriters placed reinsurance contracts with companies in which they or their families held interests. Lloyd's disciplinary committee found underwriters John Parry, Frederick Raven and Edward Nelson were guilty of misconduct by permitting the placing of a contract that guaranteed a profit to the reinsurer, a Bermuda-incorporated firm in which they held an interest. Parry and Raven were expelled and Nelson's membership was suspended for two years. A fourth underwriter, Arthur Gratton-Bellew, was acquitted of the misconduct charge. But he was suspended for five years after being found guilty along with the others of "discreditable conduct" in connection with other charges involving low interest payments to investors and inter-company loans.

Sharjah, Iran to set up shipping firm

ABU DHABI (R) — Iran and the Gulf emirate of Sharjah are to set up a joint shipping company, local officials said Thursday. They said the two countries agreed during talks in Sharjah to set up the company and to open an Iranian trade centre in the emirate. Isa Abdulla Walai, head of the Iranian parliament's foreign trade committee, attended the talks at which the chairman of Sharjah chamber of commerce and industry, Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Salim Al Qasimi asked Iran to cut customs tariffs on products from the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Sharjah is one of seven emirates that make up the UAE. Iran, like its Gulf war foe Iraq, is taking part in an international trade exhibition in Sharjah in efforts to boost non-oil exports.

Report reveals \$450m in dues to U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations is owed more than \$450 million in back dues and another financially bleak year is in prospect unless members pay up in time, according to a U.N. report published Thursday. "The United Nations has yet to leave behind the spectre of the financial crisis," Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar wrote. "Throughout 1988 the organisation has confronted the possibility of imminent bankruptcy, which it has narrowly managed to avoid so far," he noted. He added: "If member states do not meet their legal obligations, the organisation will be in no better position in 1989 than it was in 1988 to implement economy measures sufficient to avoid insolvency without significant disruption of programmes." As of Nov. 30, \$269.2 million of 1988's total regular budget assessments of \$758 million remained unpaid, the report said. Together with arrears of \$180.9 million for previous years, outstanding contributions totalled \$450.1 million. Of this, the United States owed \$337.3 million, including nearly \$122.4 million for years prior to 1988.

Top economists call for urgent Arab privatisation

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Seventy leading Arab and international economists have concluded a seminar with a call for urgent privatisation of the public sector industries in Arab countries.

"Privatisation is the only means for improving the deteriorating economies of the Arab countries in order to be able to face oil price fluctuations and protectionist policies in the industrialised states," said Saeed Al Najjar, an Egyptian economist, after the conclusion of the seminar Thursday.

He said privatisation was urgently needed first in Arab countries with a socialist economic structure like Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Algeria and South Yemen.

"The public sector in these countries covers a wide area of activities whether important or

not, in the production or services sectors," he said.

"In oil-producing countries," he said, "the private sector dominates, and although the public sector plays an important role, privatisation is less urgent in these countries."

IMF economist calls for development of free trade zones

A senior International Monetary Fund (IMF) economist has earlier stressed the need for developing free trade zones in the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Aziz Ali Mohammad, IMF director for external relations, told the seminar that the free trade area could be a vital tool in helping GCC states develop their non-oil sector.

He pointed out that although the oil sector accounted for 40 to

50 per cent of the gross domestic product of oil producing states, only one per cent of the working population was directly employed by it.

"The oil sector is very capital-intensive, but not labour-intensive," he stated.

He added that free trade zones would help develop the non-oil sector in GCC states where, despite the decline in oil prices, it was possible to balance receipts and payments.

This situation did not provide any incentive for the local industry to grow because it was still more economical to import rather than produce a wide range of products.

He pointed out that free trade zones would also facilitate the development of a wider economic base which would lead to the emergence of the local industry.

Time constraints Bhutto from changing '89 budget

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Populist leader Benazir Bhutto, who swept to power on a platform that promised a better day for Pakistan's poor, introduced a "status quo" budget Thursday that she inherited from her predecessors.

Bhutto, who was named prime minister less than a week ago, warned shortly after taking power that her Pakistan People's Party inherited an impoverished economy teetering on the brink of bankruptcy.

In Thursday's televised budget speech to the national assembly, Ehsan ul Haq Piracha, minister of state for finance, asked people to be tolerant.

"Our hands are tied... it was not possible to amend within two weeks this budget prepared by the caretaker government," he noted.

Bhutto's predecessor and arch-rival president Mohammad Zia ul Haq fired his federal and provincial governments May '89 and imposed caretaker law-makers, who a month later introduced the budget eventually bequeathed to Bhutto.

The caretaker budget increased defence spending and introduced controversial tax hikes to tackle a budget deficit of about \$3 billion as well as tax holidays to encourage new business.

Bhutto's party said it had no choice but to introduce the budget without amendments because of time constraints. The budget was originally introduced in June. A supreme court ruling which gave President Ghulam Ishaq Khan control of the country's purse strings until a newly elected government was installed insisted on a budget before the end of December.

This budget allocated 34 per cent of the projected 139-billion-rupee (\$7.7 billion) operating budget toward defence. Bhutto said earlier she would not touch the defence spending.

The only programme Bhutto's party introduced Thursday was a \$105 million people's development programme aimed at upgrading village infrastructure, which her party said had deteriorated during Zia's rule.

In an interview on the eve of the budget speech, Bhutto's financial adviser V.A. Jafaray hinted that little could be ex-

pected during the lifetime of the budget.

"It may not be possible to do anything for the next six months," he said. "But this government will be in power for five years."

Pakistan's foreign debt is \$12.44 billion and the outstanding domestic borrowing is \$15.2 billion.

The populist leader must also face the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which struck a deal

with the caretaker government to provide \$1 billion to bail out Pakistan's sagging economy, explained Jafaray.

However, he refused to reveal the strings the IMF attached to the \$1 billion deal but it is reported to call for stiff austerity measures by Bhutto's government to get the economy back on track.

The IMF and Bhutto's government are expected to finalise the deal within the next two weeks.

Canadian banks raise prime rates

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's major banks Thursday raised their prime lending rates by one-half point to 12.25 per cent after the nation's central bank raised the cost of borrowing funds. Royal Bank of Canada, a leading commercial bank, led the move, raising the Canadian prime rate to its highest level since March 1986.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday Dec. 8, 1988 Central Bank official rates				
	Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)	381.2 383.1
U.S. dollar	469.0	471.0	Dutch guilder	236.7 237.9
Pound Sterling	864.1	868.4	Swedish crown	77.3 77.7
Deutschmark	367.2	368.5	Italian lira (for 100)	36.2 36.4
Swiss franc	117.6	119.2	Belgian franc (for 10)	127.4 128.0
French franc	78.2	78.6		

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	Dec. 1-7	Nov. 26-30
Daily average	JD 638,641	JD 979,223
Total volume	JD 3,193,304	JD 4,896,119
Total shares	3,382,145	2,570,992
No. of contracts	2,680	2,456
Sectoral trading:		
Industrial	JD 1,559,934 (48.8%)	JD 1,893,708 (40.5%)
Financial	JD 1,407,610 (44.1%)	JD 2,636,924 (53.0%)
Service	(4.3%)	(11.2%)
Insurance	(2.8%)	(2.6%)
Share price index	126.1	125.5
No. of companies	75	76
Price movement (rise)	25	26
(decline)	25	40
(stable)	14	10

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Prices dropped in dull trading after falls overseas and a stronger Australian dollar sparked institutional selling. The All Ordinaries index fell 4.7 to 1,471.0.

TOKYO — Prices held in a narrow range all day in light trading to close mixed. The Nikkei index rose 34.52 to 29,793.42.

HONG KONG — An absence of fresh factors and Tokyo's Thursday decline pushed the market down but brokers said underlying sentiment was still bullish. The Hang Seng index fell 8.84 to 2,671.36.

SINGAPORE — Shares closed on a mixed note with bargain-hunting alternating with light selling. The Straits Times industrial index closed 0.58 lower at 1,002.26.

BOMBAY — Share prices closed mixed on the last day of the current two-week account period as profit-taking on expectations of higher octanage (carry forward) charges wiped out early gains.

FRANKFURT — Shares closed firmer but off the day's highs in sporadic trading, partly driven by fairly brisk foreign demand for selected shares. The DAX index rose 4.90 to 1,301.43.

ZURICH — Prices closed mixed with a positive undertone on generally low turnover. The Swiss index rose 1.7 to 928.5.

PARIS — Prices ended firmer in moderately active trading, boosted by strong speculative buying of privatised stocks.

LONDON — Shares stayed depressed in volatile late trading but technical buying for the new account helped them rally strongly from the day's lows. A firmer Wall Street also provided support. At 1612 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 8.8 at 1,749.1.

NEW YORK — Prices held modest gains at midday in fairly quiet trading. Buying of blue chips and takeover stocks accounted for much of the market's strength. The Dow was up eight at 2,150.

Japan's finance minister resigns over biggest financial scandal

TOKYO (AP) — Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa resigned Friday after weeks of criticism for conflicting statements about his involvement in questionable stock purchases.

Miyazawa is the most prominent casualty so far of a five-month-old stock scandal that has shaken public confidence and implicated a wide range of influential figures in business and government.

Miyazawa, who is also giving up his position as a deputy prime minister, told reporters that he was stepping down to help pave the way for passage of sweeping tax reform bills.

"I have many regrets, but we

are not getting anywhere without clearing this deadlock," Miyazawa told press conference after handing his resignation to Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

"I feel that accomplishing tax reform is my mission, and I did not want to stand in the way of completion of the tax reform bills," Miyazawa said.

Takeshita said he will assume Miyazawa's post as a finance minister until he forms a new cabinet. The prime minister is expected to shuffle ministers' posts in a few weeks, but declined to tell reporters how long he would hold the finance portfolio.

Opposition parties in parliament have been stalling debate on the tax reform because of the scandal, demanding that Miyazawa resign.

Miyazawa has been under fire for giving divergent accounts of his alleged involvement in the affair. One of Miyazawa's former close aides bought shares of Recruit-Cosmos Co. before they were registered to trade over the counter, and sold them immediately afterward for 20 million yen (\$164,000).

Public support for Takeshita's government has dropped to 18 per cent from 30 per cent when he assumed office a year ago, according to a survey released Friday by the mass-circulation Mainichi Shimbun.

But political analysts said the

resignation has been anticipated for some time and would have minimal economic and political impact.

Opposition parties responded to the resignation with mixed signals.

Tsuruo Yamaguchi, secretary-general of the largest opposition group, the Japan Socialist Party, said in a statement that the resignation was well overdue, but that his party did not intend to participate in parliamentary debate on the tax reform package.

"Since the finance minister, who is in charge of carrying out the tax reform, resigned, the tax reform bills start again from scratch," he said.

Komeito, or the Clean Government Party, however, said in a statement that Miyazawa's resignation had cleared the way for full-fledged deliberations on the tax legislation.

The draft law, Japan's first sweeping overhaul of its tax system since the end of the World War II, has been a top priority for the Liberal Democratic Party for a decade.

Successive administrations have failed to pass the reform due to a lack of public support and strong resistance from opposition parties.

The new package simplifies corporate and personal income tax scales and introduces a three per cent sales tax.

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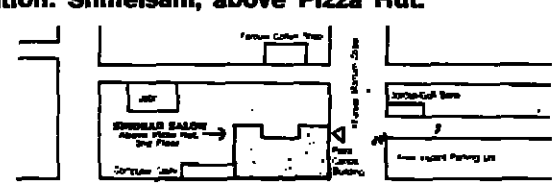
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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Doubles' favourites almost out

LONDON (R) — Favourites Ken Flach and Robert Seguso conceded their second fifth-set tiebreak in two days Thursday to retain only a slim chance of reaching the Masters doubles semifinals. The top-seeded American pair were beaten in their second round-robin engagement by compatriot Todd Witsken and Mexican Jorge Lozano who ended a tough match 6-2, 2-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4). Flach and Seguso, beaten on a fifth-set tiebreak by Spain's Emilio Sanchez and Sergio Casal in their opening match, must now defeat New Zealanders Kelly Evernden and American Johan Kriek if they are to have any chance of reaching the semifinals of the \$277,500 tournament. "We have an outside shot at it if Casal and Sanchez win both their matches," said Flach. "But we weren't looking to come into the semifinals by the back door like this — we should have won at least one of these matches." The Americans, Wimbledon and Olympic champions, flew into London only the day before their first appointment at the elegant Albert Hall.

Swedish TV to cover Davis Cup

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish national television said Thursday it would defy anti-apartheid pressure from its government-appointed monitoring body and broadcast next week's Davis Cup tennis final between Sweden and West Germany. Domestic coverage of the final in Gothenburg from Dec. 16-18 was thrown into doubt last week when the Independent Broadcasting Council rebuked the state-chartered network for screening the cup semifinals against France. The French team included members who are on the United Nations blacklist of players who have competed in South Africa. Another blacklisted player is West German number one Boris Becker, who made an appearance as a junior in the white-ruled republic and who has refused to write the letter of apology necessary to have his name expunged from the U.N. blacklist.

Ministers threaten invalid, officials say

TORONTO (R) — Minister of Sport Jean Charest, who has vowed that disgraced sprinter Ben Johnson would face a lifetime suspension, does not have the power to suspend him from future Olympic teams, the Canadian Olympic Association (COA) said Thursday. After Johnson, 26, was stripped of his 100 metres gold medal in Seoul when traces of the steroid stanozolol were found in his system, Charest announced in parliament that Johnson would be banned from Canada's national team and deprived of federal

funding for the rest of his life. Charest repeated his hardline stand during a trip to Toronto earlier this week. But COA spokesman Frank Ratcliffe says that Charest overstepped his authority. "Banning an athlete for life is beyond the authority of the minister," said Ratcliffe. "The COA decides who is eligible to be on an Olympic team. Period." Ratcliffe said.

Steroids ringleaders indicted in U.S.

SOUTH CAROLINA (AP) — Two companies and five people were indicted Thursday for allegedly manufacturing and distributing more than a million dollars worth of steroids to individuals, including body builders and other athletes. The 44-count indictment from a U.S. grand jury said all but one of the defendants participated in a conspiracy to manufacture and sell steroids from March 1985 to at least July 1987. The steroids were labeled and distributed under the names of nonexistent European companies. Assistant U.S. Attorney General John R. Bolton said in a news release. "It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would and did distribute their illicitly manufactured steroid tablets and injectable steroids to body builders and other athletes," the indictment said.

E. Germany joins anti-drug coalition

VIENNA (AP) — A joint U.S.-Soviet attack on drug use in sports, forged in the wake of the doping scandals at the summer Olympics, picked up a major ally when East Germany said it would join the agreement. "The big three are leading the way," said Anita DeFranz, an International Olympic Committee member from the United States. Procedural matters must be worked out before East Germany can take on a one-third role in the superpower crackdown on drugs, said Robert Helmick, U.S. Olympic Committee president and an IOC member. But the move, announced Thursday by East German Olympic Committee President Manfred Ewald, means the top three medal-winning countries from the summer Olympics in Seoul. The Soviet Union won 132 medals in Seoul, while East Germany won 102 and the United States 94. None of the three nations had any athletes among the 10 who were punished for drug use at the games. As a week of worldwide sports meetings where drug use was the predominant topic drew to a close, the International Olympic Committee was asked to add marijuana to the list of banned substances. The Association of National Olympic Committees said marijuana was a danger to health and "leads to the use of other, harder drugs."

Tight-rope of hope for former greats

ATLANTIC CITY (AP) — Pinklon Thomas and Michael Dokes, two 30-year-old former heavyweight champions, are walking a tight-rope of hope. A loss by either and his chance of another title shot most likely will be dead, although boxing has a way of resurrecting its old champions at unexpected times for often embarrassing performances. Thomas, who overcame heroin addiction as a teen-ager and went on to win the World Boxing Council title, appears to be in a much tighter corner than Dokes. He will fight unbeaten Evander Holyfield in a scheduled 10-round bout Friday night in the convention centre's 3,200-seat ballroom. Dokes figures to have little trouble in beating Rocky Sekorski in a scheduled 12-round defence of something called the Continental Americas title in the first half of a cable television doubleheader.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The road may be bumpy for many today. Emotional potboilers stem from insecurities, limitations, delays and false starts. Stick with the familiar basics which you know well personally. Don't take things too personally.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): The war of the sexes may be in full swing. Your understanding can save the day. Your partner's resources are discussed.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Travel plans may be postponed or adjusted. Parents play a key role. Romantic buttons are pushed to fulfill sensual needs.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): A hidden affair needs a second opinion. Stay away from situations that have the potential to destroy trust and personal stability.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21): Compromise and cooperation will help you through the day. Allow others to exercise their rights to their own preferences.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Thoughlessness and inattentiveness can spark a lover's quarrel. Plan for a family affair, and be sure to include close friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Tension may occur over possessions and financial budgets. Clamming up will only aggravate the issues. Communication brings solutions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Split up chores around the house, and start organizing the day in the morning. Togetherness with your mate tonight will spark romance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Home activities may have you tied down most of the day. A positive approach to your better half brings you a fun-filled evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You may be dealing with demands you cannot meet. Consolidate activities with your mate to ease overburdened routines.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Emotional tangles call for a cool hand and a reasonable approach. Stay clear of a friend's domestic problems. Co-workers are involved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Check with others in the household before you invite guests home. Work and pleasure can be combined. Don't be unreasonable.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Career demands call for needed rest and relaxation. Have someone else manage the clan for the day, and make private time for yourself.

'88 Games flashback

NEW YORK (AP) — The Soviets and East Germans dominated, a flock of new heroes was born and the language of camaraderie helped athletes forge new friendships and find the Olympic spirit. But the specter of drugs and politics still cast a pall over the 1988 Summer and Winter games.

Mention the stars of these games, and images spring to mind:

— American Greg Louganis hitting his head on the board, then gamely coming back — a white patch covering the stitches in his scalp — to defend both his Olympic diving titles in Seoul.

— The Soviet basketball team, which won a tainted gold medal at Munich in 1972 against the Americans, exulting after decisively outplayed the Americans in their first Olympic rematch in 16 years.

— Britain's Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards, the myopic ski jumper who finished last in both events but captured the imagination of the Calgary fans, was chanted his name before each jump.

— The ice-skating battles in which defending champion Katarina Witt of East Germany beat American Debi Thomas, with both skating their final performances to the music of "Carmen," and American Brian Boitano edging Canada's Brian Orser in a near-perfect farewell "Battle of the Brains."

— Alberto Tomba, the young brash Italian who powered aggressively through the white powder of Mount Tann to win two Alpine skiing gold medals. But the competitions also had a dark side:

— Canada's Ben Johnson edged longtime rival Carl Lewis in the 100-metre dash, the mostly highly touted race in Seoul, then was stripped of his world-record victory for testing positive for steroids. Several other athletes also were disqualified for drug use.

— Almost continuous controversy plagued the boxing events. Questionable judging had coaches and athletes crying foul and led International Olympic Committee officials to decide to study whether boxing should continue to be an Olympic sport. Korean officials pummeled a referee after a controversial decision, leading to a wave of anti-American sentiment over how NBC television covered that and other events.

— A record 160 countries sent a total of 10,000 athletes to Seoul, where East met West for the first time at the summer games in 12 years, but seven others boycotted the competition, including Cuba, which has expected to field a strong team. The absence of North Korea, spurned in its demand to co-host the games, led to restrictive security measures in Seoul due to tensions on the divided peninsula.

But beyond medals, placings, statistics and records lies the memory of Dan Jansen, one of America's speedskating medal hopes, who only took home the U.S. Olympic Committee's Olympic Spirit Award.

Women's Tennis

Canada, USSR bid for glory

MELBOURNE (R) — Canada and the Soviet Union plan to overthrow the old order in women's tennis in the Federation Cup Saturday.



No love lost: Helena Sukova, Czech champion, says of Helen Kelesi, her next-round opponent "I especially hate losing to her."

The top-seeded Soviet team reached their first semifinal for nine years, and only their third in the team tournament's 25-year history, with a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Spain's teenage pair of Conchita Martinez and Arantxa Sanchez-Francis.

Natalia Zvereva and Larisa Savchenko now challenge West Germany, the defending champions who are playing in their third semifinal in five years.

Ten countries have reached the semifinals since 1978 but Canada, the only non-European team remaining, will make it 11 in the other East-West confrontation against Czechoslovakia on Saturday.

Canada, the number eight seeds, defeated Sweden, who had provided a shock that was helpful to the Canadians by knocking out the second-seeded United States in a second-round shock.

Czechoslovakia, 3-0 victory over Denmark Friday, are the only team not to have dropped a match and have in Radka Zrubakova the form player of the championship.

Zrubakova, who has lost just eight games in three rounds with her fearsome baseline style, should have little trouble with Jill Hetherington but the second singles could provide an upset and some on-court fireworks.

There is little love lost between

(9-7) The Soviet Union profited from their overnight break to overcome the exciting Spanish pair 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 in their rain-hit deciding doubles.

Spain earned two breaks of serve and a 3-0 lead in the third set thanks to Martinez's forehand, the most potent weapon on show at the national tennis centre.

"We relaxed when we were 3-0 up, we were too happy and we didn't concentrate because we thought we were going to win," Sanchez said later.

The Soviet pair broke back for 3-1 — Sanchez did not hold serve in Friday's play — but the Spanish pair should have sealed victory in the next game.

On break point Sanchez was presented with a simple smash in midcourt with her opponents in disarray on the baseline, she slammed it out.

The retrieved Soviet pair proceeded to string together five games in a row and Zvereva won the tie with a volley on the first match point.

"That smash was a very important point. I thought 'we can win with this smash' and I hit it very hard — but it went very long," a rueful Sanchez said.

The teenagers were playing only their third doubles together and Sanchez warned that they were not going to improve.

"We have not played together very much. It's been a good experience — we're young and next year, if we practice hard, we will play much better."

Tyson to defend title Feb. 25

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson's oft-delayed heavyweight title defence against Frank Bruno is apparently on again, with an agreement expected over the weekend to hold the bout Feb. 25 at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel.

Both Tyson's manager, Bill Cayton, and Hilton executives said Thursday the fight is all but finalised, with a formal announcement expected sometime next week.

There are agreements being prepared," Cayton said. "I think Mike wants the fight, I want the fight and the promoters want the fight. I believe the deal will be made."

Hilton executive John Giavenco confirmed the hotel was ready to stage the bout, and said he expects contracts to be signed over the weekend.

"Hopefully we'll have something to announce next week," said Giavenco, president of Hilton's Nevada operations.

The fight, first set for September in London, has already been postponed five times because of turmoil in Tyson's life, including his battles with his estranged wife, Robin Givens, and Cayton.

The fight apparently will take place without promoter Don King, who has befriended Tyson and is trying to get the fighter signed to an exclusive promotion-

al contract. "Don King is not involved in this deal," said Cayton. But Cayton said he did not expect King to try to sabotage the fight.

"I think Don at this time is in favour of the fight," he said. Tyson is suing Cayton over his refusal to allow the fighter to sign the contract with King, and Cayton has been dealing with intermediaries to set up the Tyson-Bruno fight because the champion won't talk to him.

Cayton earlier said he won't allow Tyson to sign the contract with King because of contract terms he said are the worst he has ever seen.

"There's no way I'm going to approve that deal," he said Thursday. "It's a matter of integrity. I'm not only protecting Mike, I'm protecting my own reputation. If I let him sign that contract, I would go down in history as the man who sold Mike Tyson out."

The contract called for King to have an exclusive four-year promotional deal out of which Tyson would get a percentage of the net profits of his fights.

Cayton, in negotiations with King, offered him the right to promote four fights, or for a year, but King rejected that offer. Cayton settled an earlier suit

with Tyson earlier this year by agreeing to cut his take of Tyson's purses from one-third to 20 per cent and to give up most of his cut of a personal services contract.

Cayton said Thursday the Hilton itself would promote the bout against Bruno.

He said Tyson would earn some 5 million dollars for the fight, which is scheduled to be televised by home box office, a cable television service.

Baseball wheelers dealings

ATLANTA (R) — Major League Baseball's winter meetings — where team officials gather to wheel and deal — ended Thursday after five busy days in which 10 trades were made involving 35 players.

Besides the trading, several free-agent signings were finalised including multi-million dollar contracts for pitchers Nolan Ryan and Bruce Hurst.

Ryan, who holds the career record for strikeouts with 4,775, signed with the Texas Rangers for two million dollars, plus a 200,000-dollar signing bonus.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMA SHARIF
© 1988 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

CUT THOSE LINES

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 7
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ K Q

EAST
♠ 10 9 6 4
♥ 5
♦ A 8 2
♣ A 7 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 8 5
♥ Q J 6 4 3
♦ A 9
♣ 10 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠

Unquestionably, the most successful bridge teacher in the U.S. is Bill Root, who divides his time between New York and Boca Raton. His annual Royal Viking Line bridge cruise attracts more than 150 players eager to learn from the master. While Root's talents as a teacher are legend, many tend to overlook that he is also one of this country's great players. He was declarer on this hand from the recent Spingold team event at the Summer North American Championships,

held in Salt Lake City. Systemically, North's jump to four clubs showed a balanced hand with the equivalent of an opening bid and at least four-card heart support. With a dead minimum opening bid, Root had no ambitions beyond game.

West led a spade, won in hand. On the surface it might seem that declarer's only losers were two trumps and a club, but the danger of a spade ruff was imminent. Declarer made the technically correct play of a low trump. West alerted root of his king, and returned another spade, and a careless declarer would win in dummy and lead a second trump. That would spell defeat.

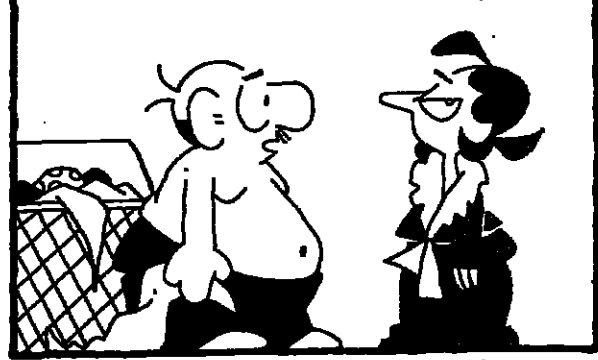
West would win and get to East with the ace of clubs, and the spade return would permit West to ruff for the setting trick.

There was an elegant counter. Instead of leading a second trump, Root cashed three rounds of diamonds, discarding a club from his hand. When East stuffed on the fourth diamond, declarer discarded his remaining club. West won a diamond trick he did not expect, but he now had no way to get to his partner's hand for the ruff. Root was able to draw trumps at his leisure and claim his contract.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

© 1988 Carroll Syndicate Inc.



"My boss likes young executives with young ideas! Where's my Big Bird shirt?"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RAMER

MEERY

HOBLED

GOTSDY

It's about time you got some new ones



A COMFORTABLE OLD SHOE MIGHT BE THIS, THROUGH THICK AND THIN.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: YOUR "O O O O O O O O O O" (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: ABBEY CHOKE VOLUME GUTTER
Answer: Age may be the difference between these — A CURVE & A BULGE

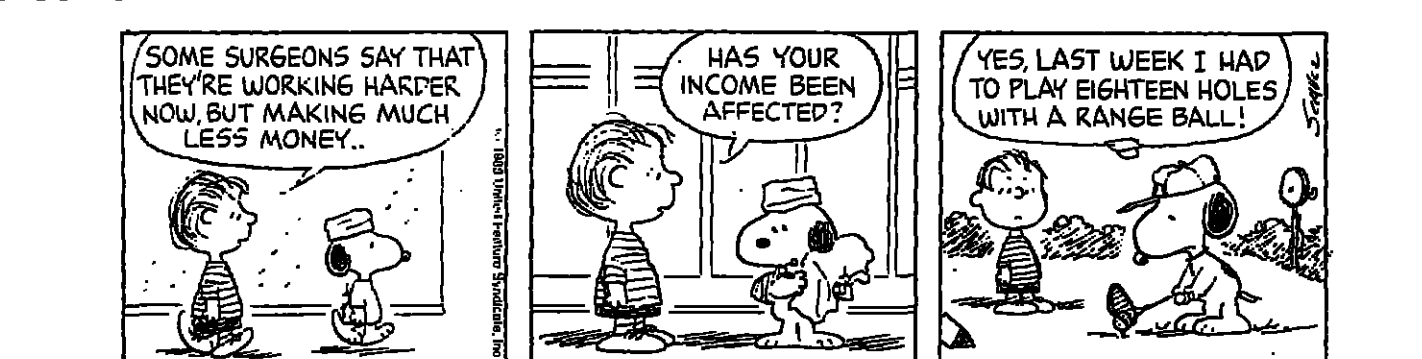
THE Daily Crossword by Harold B. Counts



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Flat cap
2. Until now
3. Shower
4. Perfume
5. Nice school
6. Bitter
7. Juncus
8. Grouch?
9. Fastener
10. Ahead
11. Follows
12. Deceptive talk
13. Pieces
14. Printer's mark
15. Lack
16. Danube feeder
17. A castle
18. NBA member
19. Dead
20. Amarillo
21. Beggar?
22. Former Egypt. VIP
23. Bald or golden
24. Lugosi
25. Fruit
26. Perilous
27. Avers
28. Haulboy
29. Exulted
30. Resort
31. Shock
32. Tear
33. Richmond actor?
34. Dutch
35. Commune
36. Model
37. Relative
38. Crismen
39. Pool stroke
40. Viper
41. Shout
42. animal
43. Martin top
44. Belief
45. Picnic pest
46. Range
47. Ensuing
48. Dead or Red
49. Eng. county
50. Public land
51. Miscellaneous
52. Seaweed
53. Breton
54. Balas or
55. belism
56. Like an old
57. woman
58. Fathers
59. Secondary
60. Kitchen gadget
61. Stay
62. Trotted
63. Roman robes
64. Walk the floor
65. USA word: abbr.
66. Energy
67. Support

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



NATO welcomes Soviet offer as positive policy shift

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Friday welcomed arms cuts announced by the Soviet Union as heralding a possible shift in Moscow's military policy, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said they should not be dismissed as a propaganda ploy.

NATO foreign ministers, adopting an unusually warm tone about Soviet policy, said they hoped the unilateral cuts represented "the starting point of a new approach by the Soviet Union to the size and structure of their military forces and programmes."

Shultz, while emphasising that big disparities remained between the conventional forces of NATO and those of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact, said of the announcement by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev:

"You wouldn't want to... dismiss this as a propaganda ploy because there is a great deal of important substance in it."

He later said: "I like the concept that the cold war is dead. I hope that is so." He added, however, that the Berlin Wall remained as a symbol of division.

Gorbachev's dramatic announcement Wednesday that the Soviet Union would cut its armed forces by 500,000 men and pull thousands of tanks, guns and troops out of Eastern Europe threw the two-day ministerial meeting off balance.

NATO responded Thursday by saying that, in forthcoming conventional stability talks between the two military blocs, it would be

seeking much more — a reduction to a total of 40,000 tanks by both blocs and a cut of at least 25,000 tanks by the Soviet Union to 12,000.

Shultz stressed Friday that the allies must maintain a strong defence effort even in the wake of the Soviet initiatives.

"Being encouraged doesn't mean you just go bananas (feel euphoric) and forget about the things that got you here," he told a news conference.

Shultz, who has met with NATO ministers in Brussels and elsewhere for more than 6½ years on the job, was attending his last alliance session.

"The alliance, it seems to me, is in a very strong position," he said. "It's cohesive, it's informed about what is taking place."

NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner said: "We cannot base our security on the good or bad intentions or personality of the Soviet leaders."

"We look upon Mr. Gorbachev with sympathy and encourage his reform efforts... while they lead to more human rights and a more responsible conduct of foreign affairs and a reduction in military capability," he said.

In their final statement, the ministers said their talks took

place "amid clear signs of change in the internal and external policies of the Soviet Union and of some of its allies."

"Promising prospects are opening up for an improved East-West dialogue," it said.

"We are encouraged by this trend which, if sustained, would provide us with an unprecedented opportunity to shape a better international environment reflecting our basic values and the aspirations of our peoples," the statement said.

In a separate statement, the ministers addressed East-West trade, saying it must contribute "to constructive East-West relations (and) remain consistent with broad allied security concerns."

Despite the flurry of arms proposals, the NATO allies do not expect an easy task in negotiating a dramatic reduction in conventional arms in Europe in the upcoming talks with the Warsaw Pact.

The Western alliance contends the Soviets and their allies maintain a large superiority in conventional forces in Europe. They want the east bloc to make much sharper reductions in their forces to bring the two sides to rough equality.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, said the NATO allies were "proposing a dramatic change in the military situation in Europe directed to very substantial reductions by about 50 per cent to a balanced outcome."



Thursday's crash of an American fighter aircraft in West Germany revived memories of the Aug. 28 tragedy at an airshow in Ramstein when an Italian

acrobatic team failed to execute a figure; one of the planes crashed into a crowd, killing 70 people (Sygma photo)

Deaths rise to 6 in U.S. jet crash into Remscheid

REMSCHIED, West Germany (Agencies) — The death toll in the crash of a U.S. air force attack jet that plowed into a residential district and exploded increased to six Friday.

City manager Klaus Schoenbach told the AP a body was found in the wreckage of a house by rescue crews at about 9 a.m. (0800 GMT). He said the dead were the lone pilot of the ill-fated aircraft, and five people who were in the area when the plane crashed.

Peter Becker, a civil defence official in the state of North Rhine Westphalia, said the search was continuing for more victims of Thursday's crash of the A-10 Thunderbolt II.

Eleven people remained hospitalised from injuries received as a result of the crash, and at least 40 others were treated and released. The crash was the latest in a series of deadly military aircraft accidents.

The crash wrecked a dozen

houses and caught some in a string of explosions from 1,000 rounds of ammunition on the Thunderbolt anti-tank jet.

The crash drew immediate calls from opposition parties for a ban on low-level flying over residential districts.

West Germany suspended low-flying exercises by its planes until the end of the year and urged its NATO allies to do the same.

The U.S. air force command at Ramstein said American military training flights would be suspended until Dec. 13 "in memoriam to those killed and injured in the accident."

The U.S. forces have been the target of a long-standing campaign by the radical Greens and the Social Democrats to ban low-altitude military flights.

The calls have been accentuated this year after a string of military air crashes in West Germany, in which at least 80 civilians and 11 NATO pilots have been killed.

An Italian stunt jet crashed into a crowd at a U.S.-sponsored airshow in Ramstein Aug. 28, killing 70 people.

Defence Minister Rupert Scholz, who hopped airshows after the Ramstein disaster, broke off a visit to the United States Thursday and hurried home to deal with the political repercussions.

In a television interview before leaving Washington he opposed using the latest crash as a weapon in the debate over the presence of NATO's 30,000 troops in West Germany.

"This sort of reasoning takes matters too far," he said. "We should not forget that the American troops in West Germany are there to help us preserve our security."

State prosecutor Joerg Bachmann told a news conference that witnesses saw flames spout from one of the plane's two engines before it crashed into a row of houses.

Activists demand Mandela's total freedom

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Friends and supporters of African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela have renewed their demands for his unconditional release from prison.

They contend his transfer to a house on a prison farm simply gave him a more luxurious cell. "The government is playing games. Mr. Mandela is still a prisoner, confined to the premises of a jail," said South African Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

In Western Europe, several officials also credited NATO solidarity with getting Gorbachev to cut back unilaterally.

French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement told reporters: "It is a firm Western position that leads the Soviets to make gestures that are indispensable for a return to détente in Europe."

West Germany, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands and other NATO countries also welcomed the Gorbachev move.

But Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez added: "Soviets know that in conventional arms negotiations they have to reduce much more than Western allies."

In Brussels, NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner said the move "seems to be a step in the right direction," but warned that big imbalances would remain.

"That's why they're advancing their own offer first, to help their public image, capture a very positive response from international public opinion and give a clear political signal," he said.

French President Francois Mitterrand, beginning a two-day visit to Czechoslovakia, called Gorbachev's announcement a "useful for the balance of forces and for peace."

In neutral Sweden, Foreign Minister Sten Andersson said: "It is bold, it is interesting and it is promising. And it should be taken seriously."

imprisoned since 1962, was transferred Wednesday night from the private Constantiaberg clinic near Cape Town, where he had recovered from tuberculosis, the government said.

Mandela was taken to a suburban-style house with a swimming pool and garden at the Victor Verster prison farm in Paarl, a wine-making town northeast of Cape Town.

"Mr. Mandela is not confined to the house and has free use of a wide range of facilities," the prisons service said Thursday. "The house was originally the permanent residence of a civilian. Later it was temporarily occupied by officials."

Visits by his immediate family

will be unlimited. The possibility of other visits is not excluded, but will be subject to prior approval and a consideration of a variety of factors.

Helen Joseph, 83, the first South African to be placed under house arrest for anti-apartheid activities, said: "It's scandalous to play cat and mouse like this. He's not free, he's just in a luxurious prison, a more comfortable jail."

Joseph, who cannot be quoted in South Africa, said she had been asking the government for 10 years for permission to visit him in prison.

The Rev. Allan Boesak, the mixed-race president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, said, "transferring him

Keeping peace could break U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Demands for new peacekeeping missions could force the financially strapped United Nations into insolvency in 1989. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has warned.

The U.N. chief's assessment was released Thursday, the day he left for Oslo, Norway, to accept the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of U.N. peacekeepers worldwide.

Along with the award, Perez de Cuellar Saturday will be collecting a cash prize worth about \$390,000, a fraction of the \$450 million in unpaid U.N. dues that member states owe. U.N. officials have not yet announced how the Nobel money will be used.

On Wednesday, Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev spoke before the General Assembly for the first time and called for a new U.N. peacekeeping force to be dispatched to Afghanistan to oversee the establishment of a broad-based government of national unity.

U.N. officials are also drafting plans for a 7,500-man peacekeeping force to monitor Namibia's transition to independence from neighbouring South Africa, and a plan to send 2,000 peacekeeping troops to monitor an independence referendum in western Sahara.

In the secretary-general's report, titled "Current Financial Crisis of the United Nations," he uses current payment patterns to project that in 1989, the world body's regular budget will collect \$779.3 million but will have to spend \$803.9 million, ending the year with a loss of \$24.6 million.

Gorbachev pledge to cut forces draws wide praise

LONDON (AP) — Western leaders have mingled praise for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's pledge to cut conventional forces with warnings that the East bloc will still heavily outgun NATO.

Gorbachev's communist allied nations joined in the praise, but Czechoslovakia gave only a cautiously worded welcome to the news that some Soviet troops are to be withdrawn from its territory.

In Washington, some key legislators said they were pleased with Gorbachev's promises, but urged Soviet action rather than more words.

In Rome, the Vatican Radio, broadcast outlet of the Roman Catholic Church, declared that Gorbachev presented a new philosophy that could change history and which challenges the Western allies.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the longest-serving NATO head of government and among the most hawkish of Western leaders, hailed Gorbachev's announcement at the United Nations Wednesday as a "very positive step forward."

But speaking in the House of Commons Thursday, she said Gorbachev's promise to cut troop levels by 500,000 and remove 5,000 tanks and other armaments within two years would still leave the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact with a 2-1 superiority over the conventional forces of NATO. That compared with a 3-1 advantage now, she said.

"We need to keep this in perspective... there's still a lot of tough negotiating to do," said Mrs. Thatcher.

But earlier she said "it is a very very fundamental change that he is making."

In Eastern Europe, commentators on the state-run news media presented Gorbachev's speech to the United Nations as an event that would go down in history.

Easi Germany's communist leader Erich Honecker, who has refused to follow Gorbachev's political and economic reforms in his own country, hailed the with-



Mikhail Gorbachev addresses the U.N. Wednesday

drawal of Soviet troops and tanks as a step of "immense historical significance."

Gorbachev said some of the Soviet troops and tanks now deployed in East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary would be withdrawn.

Honecker, in a speech Wednesday night, said East Germany "welcomes and fully and completely supports the far-reaching new initiatives and suggestions" by Gorbachev.

In Czechoslovakia, government spokesman Miroslav Pavel in a statement expressed support, but added the troop withdrawal would take place "with the full understanding of the Czechoslovak government." A Western diplomat said this indicated a cautious welcome.

Hungarian Defence Minister Ferenc Karpati was quoted as saying the Gorbachev pledge would affect about one-quarter of

the Soviet forces in Hungary — indicating some 15,000 troops will go home.

In Washington, Senate minority leader Bob Dole said, "Mr. Gorbachev has promised a lot, but can he deliver? Only his actions — not just words — will tell the world whether his U.N. speech becomes a one-of-a-kind Christmas gift."

"Now he's done more than anyone thought he could do politically," said Democratic Congressman Les Aspin, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. "His cuts are dramatic and significant — especially that he will make them unilaterally."

In Western Europe, several officials also credited NATO solidarity with getting Gorbachev to cut back unilaterally.

French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement told reporters: "It is a firm Western position that leads the Soviets to make gestures that are indispensable for a return to détente in Europe."

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U.N. marks 40th anniversary of human rights declaration

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations Thursday commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by honouring anti-apartheid activists Nelson and Winnie Mandela and four other rights advocates.

The declaration, adopted without dissent by the General Assembly Dec. 10, 1948, is the basic U.N. document under which member nations pledge to safeguard life and liberty and abolish torture and slavery.

The chairwoman of the executive committee of Amnesty International, Franca Sciuto, said there was now more awareness of the issue.

"But too many governments

are violating human rights, and though it is more difficult to hide, violations still go on," she told reporters. "Over 80 countries still have prisoners of conscience. Torture is practiced in more than 60 nations."

Sciuto and other officials of the London-based organisation, which won the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize, presented Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar with a petition signed by more than three million people urging all governments to agree to treaties protecting rights.

Only 43 governments have signed a protocol that allows individuals to petition the United Nations with complaints of human-rights abuses, said

Sciuto.

Perez de Cuellar spoke before the General Assembly, extolling the declaration "as a beacon to the international community, shedding light on the path to human dignity."

"Four decades later, violation of human rights continues to press upon the conscience of mankind. Day after day, hour by hour, in all parts of the world, flagrant abuses are committed," said the secretary-general.

The awards to the six human rights activists were then presented.

Mandela, a leader of the African National Congress organisation fighting the South African government over its ra-

cial segregation policy, has been serving a life sentence since 1962 on a conviction of plotting sabotage against the state.

Recuperating from tuberculosis, Mandela was recently moved to a clinic, and Wednesday was transferred to a house on a prison farm.

Winnie Mandela, his wife, has become a symbol of resistance to apartheid, delivering speeches in South Africa despite banning orders forbidding her to make public statements. She has been imprisoned several times, sometimes in solitary confinement.

The Mandelas received their awards in absentia, as did Mur-
lidar Devidas Amte of India, a

lawyer and aide to Mohandas K. Gandhi who went on to fight for rights for lepers, the blind, the ill and tribal children.

A posthumous award went to Leonidas Proano of Ecuador, the Roman Catholic bishop of Rio Bamba who worked to protect the rights of his country's native people. The Vatican named him the "Bishop of the Indians" in 1985. He died in August.

John Humphrey of Canada received his award in person. Humphrey was director of the U.N. division of human rights from 1946-66, and helped prepare the first draft of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He is the founding

president of the Canadian section of Amnesty International.

Also present to accept his award was Adam Lopatka of Poland, who since 1983 has been chairman of the U.N. commission drafting a convention on the rights of the child, which the world body plans to adopt next year. He led the Polish delegation to the commission on human rights from 1978-83, and is now first president of Poland's supreme court.

The award consists of a brass-and-wood plaque engraved with a flame, symbolic of human rights.

The civil and political rights enumerated in the declaration include:

- The right to life, liberty and security of person;
- Freedom of thought, conscience, religion, opinion, expression and assembly;
- Freedom from slavery or torture;
- The right to a fair trial;
- The right to leave any country, including one's homeland;
- The right to marry, found a family and own property;
- The declaration also proclaims basic economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to work; equal pay for equal work; and the rights to education, leisure, social security and an adequate standard of living. (See full text on page 4).

COLUMN

30 days in jail for baking a parrot

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A woman who baked her boyfriend's parrot following an argument was sentenced to 30 days in the Los Angeles county jail and prohibited from owning a pet for three years. Superior Court Judge Bernard J. Kamins also placed Guadalupe Rodriguez on three years' probation and reduced the felony animal cruelty by torture charge to a misdemeanor. Rodriguez, 26, had pleaded guilty to the felony in September. Rodriguez put the bird into a covered pot after her boyfriend, 29-year-old Robert Carballo, stormed out following an argument. She put the pot in the oven and turned it on. The bird was able to escape from the pot as the temperature rose, and thrashed about in the oven until it died, according to prosecutors.

Freak \$1 note

ST. LOUIS, Missouri (AP) — Barry Faintich paid \$50 for a dollar bill, and he may have captured a bargain. The 1985 dollar bill that caught his eye during a transaction at his coin shop in nearby Clayton is a rarity because it bears no Treasury Department seal, no district seal and no serial number. A bureau of engraving and printing spokesman in Washington, D.C., said Faintich, at the least, has a nice conversation piece. "It doesn't happen all the time," said spokesman Ira Polikoff. "On occasion, they get out. I wouldn't say it's going to make him a rich man, but it's unique." Polikoff said the treasury prints between five and six billion notes a year with an error rate of about 0.3 per cent. Bills are printed in sheets of 32, but it is possible only one bill failed to receive the proper markings, he said. Faintich's bill is in nearly mint condition. He said he had heard of bills of this sort being sold in the past for \$150 to \$200.

Taylor 'taking it easy'

NEW YORK (AP) — Actress Elizabeth Taylor is "taking it easy in California," recovering from recurring back problems that kept her from attending a tribute to an AIDS researcher, her publicist said. Miss Taylor, who has raised millions in the fight against the deadly disease, missed the recent event at Carnegie Hall for Dr. Mathilde Krim. "She's had a lot of problems with her back," Chen Sam, Miss Taylor's publicist, says. "She's alive and well and just taking it easy in California." The actress was admitted July 25 to St. John's hospital in Santa Monica for a compression fracture of the first lumbar vertebra. She was released after more than three weeks of treatment that included strict bed rest and physical therapy.

'Magic of Christmas'

CHRISTMAS, Florida (AP) — Jack and Alice James believe in the magic of Christmas. The thousands of letters to Santa Claus that come into this little central Florida community each year are personally answered by the couple with postcards that bear the simple message: "Lots of love, Santa." For the past two decades, the Jameses have mailed out the handwritten postcards on a scale that even Santa Claus would admire. They expect to send out around 2,000 this season, at a cost of \$300 for postage alone. "We love Christmas, and we have a great time reading the letters," said Alice James, 61. Because the U.S. postal service lets each post office make its own arrangements for Santa mail, many of the letters are simply routed to this community between Orlando and the Kennedy Space Centre that thrives on its name.

Homeless asked to show ID

ATLANTA (AP) — Some of Atlanta's homeless have found themselves in a bureaucratic snafu because two shelters, including the city's largest, won't admit them without photo identification such as a driver's license. Drivers licenses carry home addresses — something homeless people don't have. Jay Coppock, director of the 350-bed Salvation Army shelter, estimated that between 20 and 25 people who lack identification are turned away each night. The Salvation Army shelter and the 25-bed Gospel Light Rescue Mission admit homeless people with a state or international driver's license, a passport, an employee photo ID or some state-issued identification.